

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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SIMONYAN DECRIES WESTERN CAMPAIGN ON 'SOVIET THREAT'

LD162246 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Talk by Gen Rair Simonyan entitled: "Who Benefits From the Myth of Soviet Military Threat"]

[Text] In the United States, and in some other NATO countries, the propaganda campaign aimed to frighten people with the Soviet military threat has become state policy. Those who are endeavouring to return the world to the cold war times, who are endeavoring to torpedo the process of detente, and who threaten open intervention into the internal affairs of other states which happen to be in the zone of interests of the United States, or NATO are sounding off about the Soviet threat.

As Leonid Brezhnev said in one of his speeches, those in the West who are instigating the far-fetched campaign about the Soviet military threat, in fact have something else in mind. They refuse to accept the existing approximate balance in military forces, and would like to achieve superiority. This is confirmed by the considerable increase of resources earmarked for military purposes in the United States, and by its allies, or by the NATO decision on the development of nuclear resources in advance bases earmarked in accordance with Presidential Directive 59, on conducting an offensive limited nuclear war.

Suffice it to recall how the NATO propaganda machine for many months, particularly in the second half of 1979 on the eve of the Brussels decision on the production and deployment in West Europe of American medium-range missiles inundated everybody with streams of information about the Soviet missile known in the West as SS20. It was maintained that the SS20 creates almost total superiority for the Soviet Union against any weapon in the West.

Accordingly the conclusion was reached that NATO should speedily catch up, and the Soviet proposals concerning debates on this or other problems in respect of military detente in Europe were ignored or distorted. At present, when the NATO decision has been approved, when runways have been designated for American rockets, there now appear reports in Western press that Washington and NATO have overestimated the danger from the Soviet missiles. However, the plans have been pushed forward. It is true that not everybody was deceived. Increased public protests in West European countries against NATO's nuclear missile plans demonstrate that people know the source of the threat of war. As far as the European allies are concerned, is it in fact possible to strengthen the security of Britain, the FRG, Italy, or some other country, as NATO strategists maintain, by way of transforming their territory into runways for Tomahawks and Pershings aimed against the Soviet Union and other countries of the Warsaw Pact.

West Europe is being transformed into a nuclear war testing ground to the accompaniment of tales about the Soviet military threat. British scientists have calculated that four 1-megaton bombs dropped on Britain would destroy at least 20 million people. But the government of Margaret Thatcher, was the first NATO government to consent to the deployment of 160 cruise missiles, every single one of which could become the target for blows in response to aggression. These are the facts, they prove that the militarist chorus about the alleged U.S. lag behind the Soviet Union in armaments of one type or another, depending which branch of the arms race Washington needs to promote, and also the fuss about the Soviet military threat, aim to mislead international public opinion. This is a sort of propaganda cloak, used by those who are really responsible for arms race to torpedo disarmament negotiations and for preparations for an aggressive nuclear war.

It is clear that in the United States there are influential forces which view in a characteristic way the Soviet Union's restraint dictated by efforts to improve the international situation. These forces in fact are provoking nuclear confrontation. We see clearly the political line whose danger it is impossible not to appreciate.

SOCIALIST COMMUNITIES' UNITY ON DISARMAMENT LAUDED

LD181202 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Georgiy Gramatchikov commentary from new series entitled "On the Agenda--Disarmament":
"Following the Course of Progress"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and other socialist countries are consistently struggling for the strengthening of general security, for the consolidation of political detente, the military and disarmament.

Within the framework of our series, we shall acquaint you with consistent steps taken by the Soviet Union and by all socialist countries aimed in this direction. Today, we ask you to listen to a commentary by Georgiy Gramatchikov: "Following the course of peace and progress," and also to a review of events within the framework of banning all means of mass destruction:

Hardly more than 1 month has elapsed from the inauguration of the debates of the 26th CPSU Congress. Soviet people are preparing to give a suitable welcome to this important event. With enthusiasm they began the implementation of the new 11th 5-Year Plan.

The program of the socioeconomic development of the land of the soviets is closely linked with the course of the foreign policy of the CPSU and of the Soviet state. In one of his speeches Comrade Leonid Brezhnev said that the implementation of this program dictates completely the political policy, the provision of peaceful conditions for the country of the soviets--that means, a course for detente, disarmament and cooperation.

All this also fully applies to other countries of the socialist community. Like the Soviet Union, they are vitally interested in the strengthening of peace in our world, in the liquidation of centers of tension.

The struggle for detente is taking place now in a complex international situation. The arms race, to which the United States has activated other NATO states and its allies from outside the bloc, is taking on a very dangerous character. As it appears from the evaluations of the United Nations, the total potential of the arsenal of nuclear arms in the world exceeds 50 billion tons of explosives. Using these arms one can destroy 15 times over everything that lives on this earth.

But for the imperialist circles, this is still not enough. They want to implement new military plans. At any price, they are also trying to upset the balance of power, which has been developed between them and the world of socialism, to achieve military superiority over the states of the Warsaw Pact, and then from the position of strength to dictate their conditions to us.

The countries of socialism are doing everything they can to prevent the expansion of military confrontation between the two groups--NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

Last May, the Warsaw Pact states proposed a wide program of states in favor of curbing the continuous expansion of nuclear weapon potential. Last year, a contingent of Soviet troops was withdrawn from the GDR, including about 20,000 soldiers and a large amount of military equipment.

During the talks in Vienna, the countries of socialism presented new, constructive proposals concerning the lowering of the level of military confrontation in central Europe. There are no arms of any kind or type on which the Soviet Union and other socialist countries would not be prepared to negotiate their reduction or banning.

Our countries take as their departing point the fact that, despite the complex character of the international situation, there still exist objective possibilities for the elimination of the threat of war.

This was clearly presented once again at the meeting of the party and state activists of the Warsaw Pact member countries which took place in Moscow last December. Participants in the meeting expressed the conviction that the united efforts of all countries and nations which want peace and cooperation are able to consolidate detente and make it the main objective in international cooperation.

A very important condition for the success of this lofty cause is the unity and the cohesion of the socialist countries. It was in fact the coordinated and guided steps of our states in the international arena that enabled us, for example, to achieve the recognition by the West of the postwar frontiers in Europe, the holding of the Helsinki conference and the putting to an end the American, and then Chinese, aggression in Vietnam.

The vicious circle, with which imperialism always wanted to entangle mankind, of world war—a brief interval—then a new world war, has been broken.

By decisively taking the course of peace and international cooperation, the socialist countries are still ready to continue the search for effective roads leading to an end of the arms race, and then disarmament.

THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES MODERNIZATION SCORED

LD181224 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1600 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Viktor Shlenov commentary]

[Excerpt] NATO propaganda is stepping up its campaign over the so-called Soviet threat. Those orchestrating this campaign are trying to convince Western public opinion that, allegedly, the Soviet Union has upset the approximate military balance created between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, and is thus threatening the allegedly unarmed Western Europe.

First of all, our commentator Viktor Shlenov writes, the equality between the NATO and Warsaw Pact forces is a fact repeatedly reaffirmed by both political and military figures of the United States and West Europe.

The question arises: In view of the fact that the military balance has not been upset, why should new American nuclear missiles be deployed in Europe? There can only be one answer: The United States is trying to achieve unilateral advantages, creating superiority over the Warsaw Pact countries. The stratocrats of the United States and NATO are not worried by the fact that implementation of this decision will complicate the international situation and will greatly aggravate the arms race. In order to convince public opinion that a new round of the arms race is necessary, a propaganda ballyhoo is created about the Soviet medium-range missiles, known in the West as SS-20. Yes, it is true that the USSR is modernizing its medium-range missiles but it does so not in order to achieve military superiority over the West but to confront the threat coming from the advance deployment of nuclear weapons in Europe.

Modernization of Soviet medium-range missiles does not bring about any changes in principle to the strategic situation, to the relations between the powers on the continent; it does not disturb the rough equality which has developed: Quite simply one (?carrier) is replaced by another, which in fact is less powerful. Meanwhile, the 572 nuclear missiles to be deployed in West Europe represent a qualitatively new weapon intended to achieve goals of a global strategic nature. As it recently emerged, the Pentagon has worked out a plan for the use of the new Pershing and cruise missiles for a preemptive attack on the Soviet Union, for the destruction of military and nonmilitary installations on the territories of the socialist countries. The total number of warheads of the new missiles will greatly shell the already huge quantity of nuclear arms trained on the Warsaw Pact countries.

Thus, if the decisions taken by NATO in Brussels in December 1979 are implemented, this would really undermine the balance of forces which has developed, and this means that in Europe there would again be an increase in the already colossal general military capability. There would again be a steep rise in the nonproductive military forces. There would be an increase in the threat of a military confrontation.

Soviet leaders have repeatedly stated that our country has no aggressive intentions of any kind against anyone; and it could not have. The USSR's peace-loving nature emanates from the very substance of the socialist system. In our country there are no classes, no groups of people, no separate individuals, interested in the arms race. In war, the Soviet Union has need of neither foreign lands nor foreign (?resources). Our country has everything it needs. The Soviet people, who have experienced all the atrocities of war, the misery and the catastrophe, do not need war. They have immense plans whose central aim is the further rise in the material well-being of the people. Anyone becoming acquainted with the plans of the CPSU Central Committee, with the basic guidelines of the Soviet Union's economic and social development in 1981-1985 and for the period through 1990 would be convinced of this. Following nationwide discussion and after the approval of this plan by the 26th CPSU Congress, it will become transformed into a program of peaceful, creative construction of the Soviet people in the coming years.

U.S. PRESSING DEVELOPMENT OF LASER WEAPONS

LD170422 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0955 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 17 Jan (TASS)--The Pentagon is pressing ahead with creating laser weapons, which will give a powerful impetus to the arms race and take it into space. According to H. Mark, U.S. secretary of the air force, a prototype of a laser weapon intended for war in space has been tested at a U.S. Air Force testing ground in New Mexico. "We are now ready to proceed to the next phase: the testing of a laser weapon mounted in an aircraft," he said.

H. Mark called the ground testing of the laser weapon "an epoch-making event". "The laser will become the chief form of weapon in the 21st century," the secretary declared. "It will become so widespread that it could even replace firearms."

According to him, tests of laser weapons in flight conditions will be conducted in the near future at various aerial and artillery ranges in the United States. The prototype laser weapon will be mounted in a modified KC-135 aircraft.

The United States has long been working on the creation of laser weapons. The American military has far-reaching plans for them. According to the air force secretary, so far at least \$1 billion has been spent for these purposes. At the end of last year, the U.S. Congress allocated the Pentagon \$15 billion for further work in this field.

The American reusable shuttle spacecraft, which the United States plans to put into orbit this year, is to make a considerable contribution to the development of this form of weapon. The Baltimore SUN reported recently that one of the main aims of the shuttle crew will be to test a sight for a laser weapon intended for fitting to artificial earth satellites.

LD161053 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 2 Signed to Press 5 Jan 81 p 20

[Text] For the socialist community countries last year was another important landmark on the road of implementing the comprehensive program of socialist economic integration. Exploiting the advantages of socialism and mutual cooperation, our countries increased their national income in 1980 by approximately two-thirds compared with 1970, while the corresponding indicator rose by less than one-third during the same period in the West European Common Market countries. Working people's real per capita incomes increased by more than 50 percent. During the last 5-year plan almost 15 million apartments housing around 70 million people were built in the CEMA countries; in fact more than 16 percent of our countries' citizens considerably improved their housing conditions.

A Coordinated Strategy

Concretizing and developing the comprehensive program, the long-term targeted programs adopted in 1978 and 1979 laid down a coordinated strategy of cooperation among the CEMA countries in the most important spheres of material production. Active work is now underway in the CEMA countries to develop the long-term programs into a system of specific agreements and to make the next two 5-year plans a period of intensive production, scientific and technical cooperation. This work is unique in its importance, scale and complexity. Around half the necessary agreements to develop the long-term targeted cooperation programs have already been prepared and signed.

Particular attention is being devoted to specialization and production sharing in the manufacture of progressive new types of machinery and equipment to enable work efficiency to be increased, work quality to be improved and the consumption of power and raw and part-processed materials to be reduced. Existing agreements were supplemented in 1980 by a major new international agreement by interested CEMA countries on specialization and production sharing in the development and manufacture of computer facilities. The signatories expressed their intention of increasing the total volume of reciprocal deliveries of modern computer equipment in 1981-1985 by around 150 percent compared with the last 5-year plan, and of boosting their value to R15 billion.

Other agreements specifying avenues of cooperation and projects aimed at meeting the CEMA countries' economically justified requirements for individual raw materials, agricultural and food industry products, consumer goods and transportation have been signed or are being prepared for conclusion.

A great deal of attention is being devoted to giving large-scale assistance to Vietnam, Cuba and the Mongolian People's Republic in accelerating their economic development.

Last year was marked by a number of major new successes in multilateral cooperation among the CEMA countries in solving important economic and technical tasks, including those set by the first coordinated plan for multilateral integration measures for 1976-1980.
[paragraph continues]

Actually in 1980 the first stage of the Ust-Ilimsk pulp plant went into service; the Soyuz gas pipeline, which is now capable of supplying the CEMA countries with 15.5 billion cubic meters of Orenburg gas a year, and the high-tension Vinnitsa-Albertisa power line, which has increased the potential supply of electricity from the USSR to the socialist countries by 6.4 billion kilowatt-hours, were brought up to full capacity; and work was finished on the construction of the second stage of the Kiyembayevskiy asbestos mining and enriching combine and a number of other projects.

Each of them graphically exemplifies the great effect of pooling the fraternal countries' material, financial and labor resources in important sectors of economic building. The guaranteed enjoyment of the fruits of multilateral cooperation is moving ever more confidently from the realm of long-term plans and projects into the everyday life of real socialism, in conformity with the vital interests both of the member countries' national economies and of the whole socialist community. In particular, the unique Druzhba oil pipeline and the Mir combined power system created back in the sixties as a result of internationalist cooperation have now been supplemented with two more integration installations of the same type, which increase the flow of energy [energonositeli] from the USSR to the fraternal socialist countries by more than 20 million tons of ideal fuel a year at a stroke. While during the last decade the capitalist world was racked by a crippling energy crisis, the CEMA countries' internationalist cooperation not only spared them from the crisis but also ensured the conditions needed for their further economic development.

As for other multilateral cooperation projects which were built or started working at full capacity in 1980, as payment for their assistance in their creation alone the East European CEMA countries will receive around 2.4 million tons of pulp, up to 2 million tons of asbestos and considerable quantities of other raw materials over the next 10 years. For its part, last year the USSR continued to collaborate in the development of Cuba's nickel industry and Hungary's bauxite extracting industry, and in geological research in Mongolia, which within the next few years will already be helping to keep the Soviet economy more fully supplied with a number of scarce materials.

True to its internationalist duty, the USSR is making every effort to continue to ensure the development of a number of Soviet fuel and raw material sectors, taking into consideration not only its own requirements but also the fraternal countries' needs. At the same time the objective difficulties arising from further increasing the volume of raw material and fuel supplies between our countries are becoming increasingly obvious. Proceeding from the vital interests of the entire socialist community's ongoing development and guided by the principles of socialist internationalism, the CEMA countries' communist and workers parties are relying with increasing confidence on multilateral cooperation in exploiting not only extensive but also intensive growth factors, with due regard for the latest achievements of scientific and technical progress and the scope for further deepening specialization and production sharing. Thus the ambitious program adopted by CEMA for constructing nuclear power stations, which is geared to exploiting the advantages of socialist international division of labor in the production of complex equipment for use at nuclear power stations, opened up new horizons in the solution of the fuel and energy problem on a multilateral basis. In order to develop the program, which is to run until 1990, an agreement has been signed committing around 50 industrial associations and enterprises from 8 countries to a high degree of specialization in the production of equipment made to the highest technical and economic standards destined for use in all the member countries. A number of enterprises are developing unit and part specialization for the manufacture of certain products. The Soviet Atomash plant, the Czechoslovak Skoda Association, the GDR's Magdeburg heavy machine building combine, Hungary's Chemimash Association and others will play an important part in the production of equipment for the nuclear power industry.

Implementation of this major program will provide the East European CEMA countries and Cuba with new power capacities capable of replacing around 70-75 million tons of ideal fuel a year--roughly comparable with commissioning another Druzhba oil pipeline or four Soyuz gas pipelines.

The pooling of the fraternal countries' efforts is having a great effect in bringing scientific and technical problems to fruition. This is graphically confirmed by the further substantial contribution to the implementation of the Intercosmos program made in 1980 by international space crews involving the participation of Hungarian, Vietnamese, Cuban and Soviet citizens.

In the process of multilateral cooperation favorable conditions are developing for spreading effective new forms and methods of management emerging under the conditions prevailing in various CEMA countries and generalizing and utilizing progressive experience, which is becoming an increasingly important reserve for our development.

Bilateral Programs

The socialist community countries entered the eighties enriched with a new form of cooperation, namely bilateral long-term specialization and production sharing programs running until 1990. Agreement on signing these programs between the Soviet Union and a number of other CEMA countries was reached during Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's Crimea meeting with fraternal parties' leaders. The long-term bilateral programs have developed out of the accumulated rich experience of all-round cooperation, do not preclude but complement other forms of cooperation and are designed to make a great contribution to improving production efficiency and quality. Along with the multilateral programs, they are to be an important factor making for the utilization of reserves in the specialization and production sharing sphere--which are still considerable--and as such are to promote the creation of production capacities at the optimum level, an increase in the size of production runs of uniform output, an improvement in output's technical standards, the elimination of duplication in the production of certain types of output and the elimination of the shortage of a number of types of highly productive machines and equipment.

Following the signing of long-term bilateral agreements between the USSR and Bulgaria and the GDR in 1979, 1980 was marked by the signing of another four of these agreements--with Hungary, Poland, Romania and Czechoslovakia. Extensive cooperation on a long-term basis is implemented with Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia, and also Yugoslavia.

The main work on the traditional coordination of the national economic plans of the USSR and the other CEMA countries for the new 5-year plan was completed in 1980. It was closely coordinated with the long-term targeted cooperation programs and the bilateral programs.

A protocol on the results of coordination with the GDR has been signed which envisages an increase of approximately 30 percent in trade with this, the USSR's major trade partner within CEMA, with turnover rising to R48 billion in 1981-1985. The corresponding protocol with Hungary projected an increase of about 50 percent in Soviet-Hungarian trade compared with the last 5 years, with turnover increasing to R34 billion over the 5-year period. The protocol with the CSSR tentatively envisages that trade will increase 36 percent during the 5-year period--to more than R40 billion. The USSR national economic plan was also coordinated with the Bulgarian, Cuban, Mongolian and Romanian 5-year plans in 1980.

Socialist Internationalism

As integration deepens, working people's participation in improving cooperation expands and new opportunities are created for educating economic cadres and the broad working people's masses in the spirit of combining socialist patriotism with socialist internationalism.

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BB 4

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
COMMUNIST RELATIONS

The fine tradition of celebrating significant events in the fraternal countries' life with new labor successes strengthened in 1980. Dozens of labor collectives in different community countries developed international socialist competition in honor of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth, the recent MSZMP and Cuban communist party congresses, and the upcoming CPSU, BCP, SED and CPCZ congresses.

The experience of labor collaboration between the collectives of the Sachsenwerk plant in Dresden and Leningrad's Elektrosila Association (covered in detail during 1980 in the GDR economic paper DIE WIRTSCHAFT and in EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA) elicited a great reaction in international competition.

The socialist community countries are now determining the main reference points for their national economic development in the coming 5 years. The CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th party congress envisages one of the primary tasks in developing foreign economic ties as being to "take an active part in further deepening socialist economic integration."

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD182130 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0945 GMT 18 Jan 81

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Dmitriy Antonevich Volskiy, member of the editorial staff of NOVOYE VREMYA; Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international observer for KOMMUNIST; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, commentator with the All-Union Radio]

[Text] [Levin] Good day, esteemed comrade radio listeners: The events of recent days once again and with all cogency have confirmed the indisputable truth that it is not possible to discredit the constructive, peace-loving proposals which open a real path to the solution of the most acute problems, either by calumny or by a conspiracy of silence. The truth is forging a road for itself through the lies which block its path and it is impossible to expunge from real life that which corresponds to the interests of peoples.

Brezhnev Proposals

It is a question of the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union in relation to a settlement of the situation in the Persian Gulf zone, initiatives which were advanced by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev during his official visit to India. Imperialist propaganda, and primarily that of the United States, tried to do what is called rejecting out of hand the proposals of the Soviet Union and to sink them in the distant approaches to the Persian Gulf. Not getting involved in explanations, and this is symptomatic, for there cannot be any weighty arguments, Washington declared the Soviet initiative to be unrealistic. Its yes-men, such as the rulers of Oman and As-Sadat, the Egyptian president who curries favor with the United States as the zealous betrayer of his own people, came out in the same spirit. But those who perceive the world not through the prism of U.S. foreign policy, who strive to make a contribution not to the aggravation but to the solution of acute problems, return again and again to the proposals of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and observe their constructiveness and realism.

Recently the Indian public marked the first anniversary of the return to power of the Indira Gandhi government. An event, let's say bluntly, worthy of attention not only for India, for the contribution of this country to reinforcing peace and stability is significant and weighty. And here, noting this significant date, in speaking of the main achievements of the Indira Gandhi government in the past year, the Indian press and in particular THE NATIONAL HERALD and PATRIOT have singled out the visit to India by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the proposals he advanced on settling the situation in the Persian Gulf zone.

[Nekrasov] In my view it would be expedient to recall these proposals once again, and to recall that which constitutes their essence.

[Levin] Yes, since the day on which these proposals were put forward by Comrade Brezhnev, quite a long time, more than a month, has passed. And to refresh the essence of the problem in the memory of our listeners is of course expedient.

[Nekrasov] So let us recall what Leonid Ilich Brezhnev proposed. First, not to create foreign military bases in the region of the Persian Gulf and adjacent islands. Not to deploy there nuclear or any other type of weapons of mass destruction. Next, not to use and not to threaten to use force against countries in the region of the Persian Gulf and not to interfere in their domestic affairs, to respect the status of nonalignment chosen by states in the Persian Gulf, and not to draw them into military groupings with the participation of nuclear powers. Next, to respect the sovereign right of states in this region to their natural resources, and finally not to create any obstacles or threat to normal trade exchange and use of sea communications linking states of this region with other countries of the world.

[Levin] As you see, the proposals are very precise, very clear. But it stands to reason that this type of agreement with the participants, which would themselves be states of the given region, enjoying full rights, would correspond to their vital interests.

I would like to note that these proposals correspond to the principles of equal security and they can fail to suit only those who do not want peace and stability, who are nurturing aggressive plans in relation to countries in the Persian Gulf.

U.S. Intervention in Iran

And here precisely the latest, the very latest actions of the ruling circles of the United States give an answer to the question of what precisely the reason is for the negative attitude of the United States to the Soviet proposals. I want to draw your attention, comrade radio listeners, to an extremely worrying and very serious, in the circumstances, report by PTI, an Indian news agency. As this agency reports, Washington is preparing armed aggression against Iran. The aim of this carefully thought out action is to free the hostages by force or at least to force the Government of Iran to accept U.S. conditions unreservedly.

According to well informed diplomatic sources in countries of the Near East, the new act of U.S. intervention will be performed from military bases in Egypt or Pakistan and Oman. Here lies incidentally a supplementary answer to the questions as to how to explain that the attitude of Oman and Egypt in relation to Soviet initiatives is the same as that of the United States. In these plans of U.S. imperialists, they play the most direct role. According to PTI, the landing of U.S. troops will most likely take place near Bandar 'Abbas. Washington moreover has demanded that its NATO allies put their armed forces on to a state of combat readiness in case of possible confrontation. Attention is also drawn by the fact that information about the U.S. intervention in Iran, which is being prepared, has reached India from London. In military circles of the British capital there is open talk of the transfer by air of major contingents of U.S. landing troops and air force men to bases in the FRG, Spain, Turkey and to British bases on Cyprus. This concentration of U.S. Armed Forces, notes PTI, has the most direct relation to the new act of aggression against Iran which is being prepared by Washington. And here in the light of these reports the recent visit of Kissinger, the former U.S. secretary of state, to Israel, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Oman and Somalia acquires heightened coloring. It is true that in this arrangement of forces which is currently taking place in Washington there are no preparations to assign to Kissinger any big official state post, but his affiliation to the ruling elite of the United States calls forth no doubt that he was by no means carrying out individual missions. So then the Beirut paper ASH-SHA'B, with sufficiently strong grounds, wrote that the main aim of Kissinger's visit was to prepare Washington's allies in the Arab region for the possibility of a new U.S. armed attack on Iran in the very near future. For example it turns out that in Cairo Kissinger met the leader of the Iranian opposition abroad, General Oveysi, an ardent monarchist. At the meeting there was discussion of the stage of the preparation for the overthrow of the current Iranian regime.

As you see, the ominous plans of U.S. imperialism, the ominous plan of intervention in Iran, the attempt again to dictate its own will stand out in relief. And it is characteristic that this very line, this striving towards strengthening aggression appears at a delicate period in the development of the United States, at a transition period.

[Volskiy] This U.S. action, which is being planned in relation to Iran, it is not isolated in time either, because the first signs that Washington was preparing such intervention in the Persian Gulf, the oil-rich zone, goes back to 1977. That is the initial period of President Carter's stay in power, when his so-called secret directives were promulgated on the basis of which the preparation began for U.S. troops to land in the Persian Gulf in the event of, as it was said at that time, emergencies.

That is in regards to terms of time, so to speak. But if we take the territorial, geographical point of view, then the government which is now outgoing is pursuing the very same line of intervention in relation to a completely different region which is closer to the United States--I have in mind Central America and in current circumstances, primarily of course, El Salvador. The imperialist circles of the United States have for a long time already wanted to transfer troops and arms to Central America, where it is considerably easier, incidentally, than to send them to Iran or to the Persian Gulf. It is nearer, and easier to give a lesson in this region.

[Levin] Chinese terminology.

[Volskiy] Chinese terminology, but as we can see, terminology which is already being snapped up in certain Western capitals, and not only in Washington. To give a lesson not only to the peoples of Central America but also to other peoples of developing countries, that is the first thing. Second, the outgoing Carter administration has done a lot to prepare such a turn of events. It has, for example, renewed aid to the Salvadoran junta, literally a few days before handing over power to the Reagan administration.

Reagan Administration

[Nekrasov] In our roundtable broadcasts we have mentioned many times the forthcoming commencement of Reagan's term of office. This will take place on Tuesday and will mark a new stage in American policy. After all, they say in the West that in America, as distinct from, let us say, Britain, when there is a change of government, there is a change of not just the top echelons, not just the ministers, and the apparatus remains; here, they say, a more extensive layer is changed, as a result policy is changed as well. Well, this is, of course, not wholly the case, or, rather, far from being the case altogether, since, in the final analysis, it is the ruling circles that determine policy and, in general, policy is also determined by the existing circumstances. Well, nevertheless, the date of Tuesday, 20 January, is a certain boundary in the foreign policy situation and foreign policy life of the United States. Twelve years ago I had occasion to be present during Nixon's entry into the White House. I remember the Pennsylvania Avenue parade, as well as the bells which rang throughout Washington that evening. All this is a spectacle. Reagan will make his speech. It is the custom that this speech does not go into the details of the future policy. Its purpose is, rather, to convey the general image as the Americans say, that is to say the picture of the new president in the eyes of the American people.

The process of working out this policy for real will only begin in the days to follow. However, on the eve of this ceremony, on the eve of this procedure, ASSOCIATED PRESS writes: Promises heard during the election campaign begin gradually to lose their significance in the light of the real state of affairs.

[Volskiy] Well, Vadim Nikolayevich, when we are talking of the real state of affairs, we should, evidently, bear in mind above all not just the general mood in America, but in other Western countries as well.

Incidentally, the press has recently reported the intention of a number of West European Social Democratic parties to address an appeal to Reagan not to postpone the commencement of talks with Moscow concerning limitation of nuclear missile weapons. What do you think? Can an appeal of this kind have any effect on the American capital's position?

[Nekrasov] The question concerning the talks is one of the most critical questions of American foreign policy at present. The self-same AP observer continuing his thought, wrote that the promise to commence talks with the Soviet Union forthwith was now, apparently, being relegated to the background. As for Weinberger, the new secretary of defense, he stated outright that even the idea of such talks cannot be entertained before at least 6 months. But what will be taking place during that period? This worries the public in other countries.

The West German STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG expresses a justified and natural apprehension that given such an unhurried approach, the talks can, in the paper's opinion, drag on for quite a number of years while meanwhile the nuclear arms race will continue at a monstrous pace. As for what directly concerns your question, Dmitriy Antonovich, I personally think that it will hardly have any effect at all, a whole number of factors of American life and statements in the American press serve to bear enough witness to that. Here, for instance, I have the opinion of the New York TIMES which analyzed the recent speeches by Haig, the new secretary of state, made in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Haig, according to the paper, called for a radical improvement--these are Haig's words--a radical improvement of the American military might, prior to commencing talks with the Soviet Union on the questions of arms limitation. Here, as they say, all the I's have been dotted. True enough the American observer opine that addressing the Senate committee, the new secretary of state did not give in to attempts to make him reveal the details concerning his future activities regarding concrete questions. He would not be drawn on these, that is true. However, the general tone was, nevertheless, perfectly obvious.

[Levin] While we are on the subject of Haig, during the Senate hearings he took, according to what American observers say, a harsh position, one of confrontation with regard to the Soviet Union.

[Nekrasov] General Haig, while in Europe as NATO commander in chief, spoke constantly of the Soviet military threat. As secretary of state, Haig, it is expected, will be the executor and get his basic ideas from the President and will implement them. Here, the Chicago TRIBUNE states that, apparently, Reagan is not too conversant with foreign political problems. That is why he will, in the main, concern himself with domestic policy and will let Haig have complete control where foreign policy is concerned; either Haig or Allen, his national security adviser.

[Volskiy] Well, let us add that Allen is thought to be among the people even more to the right than Brzezinski, as far as his views are concerned. Even this man, whose views are so rightwing and anticommunist, even after the election campaign ended, nevertheless, made several statements which can be viewed from the fact that opinions are one thing, but the real situation--which none can fail to take into consideration--is something else. For instance, this is what he said: Those elements of detente which correspond to U.S. goals will be very valuable for our policy. He said further: We should not build our relations proceeding from a position of confrontation or hostility. We should proceed from the necessity of defining the spheres of cooperation. However, he added that this should be done on the basis of our own understanding of our national interests. Naturally, such statements leave a lot of room for different interpretation and it is only the future, only the practical activities of the new American administration which can show the extent to which it follows a sober understanding of the situation or the extent to which it gives in to these anticommunist and anti-Soviet prejudices which are peculiar to many spheres of the administration about to take power.

Watson Interview

[Levin] In connection with this, the interview given by Thomas Watson, former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union--I say former, as he left our country last week, on Thursday--to a U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT journalist, does I think, deserve attention.

[Nekrasov] Viktor Nikolayevich. I would add that he is not what's known as a career diplomat. He entered foreign policy from the business world and has his own way of seeing things.

[Levin] Perfectly true. It is precisely this that is of greatest interest in the interview.

The first question that he was asked was put to him more as a businessman than a diplomat. Here is this question: Would you make available to the Soviet Union the access to American technology it needs to set going the exploitation of its oil resources? Well, here one should just add that what is really meant by the question is the general attitude of certain U.S. circles toward the development of trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union, or, to be more precise, the desire of very influential circles to curtail these relations to a minimum in the utopian hope that it will harm the Soviet Union. And so, Watson, on the basis of his experience both as a smart businessman and a diplomat, replied: If you count on the Soviet Union failing because we do not make modern technology available to them, you are misled. They have enough oil. I do not foresee anything, said Watson, which might weaken the Soviet Union militarily or give birth to some other phenomena that might appear advantageous to the West. All this is the desire to indulge in wishful thinking. Well, as I see it, the fundamental question now is: What will the new American administration be guided by--wishful thinking, or reality?

[Volskiy] I think it does not apply just to relations with the Soviet Union, but also to its policy in various regions of the world, let us say in the Near East where it is now beginning to face a whole number of very acute problems. In particular, one of these is connected with the change, an inevitable one I think, in Israel, with the change of cabinet, since Begin's government met with an early bankruptcy, so to speak, in connection with the resignation of Hurvitz, minister of finance. The reason for this is also understandable. It is found in the unrestrained growth of inflation and other economic mess, caused by an equally understandable reason: the militaristic course, the refusal to agree to a just settlement in the Near East. Well, all right. Begin's government will go. Elections will take place. Everyone forecasts that a new government, a government of the so-called Labor Party, headed by Peres, will come to power after the elections. Well, will it produce any changes in the situation in the Near East as a whole? It goes without saying that to even think that a change of the ruling party in Israel will mean that it will adopt a reasonable course is to indulge in illusions. After all, it was precisely during the years when the Labor Party ruled that the foundations for the expansionist policy were laid. There are no grounds to think that some kind of positive changes have suddenly occurred in the political thought of that party's leaders.

[Nekrasov] Dimriy Antonovich, do you not think that this means that everything will stay the same? For example, what would be the attitude of a new Israeli Government to the Camp David deal which was, of course, Begin's handiwork. This is not to mention the leading role played by Carter, or As-Sadat's participation in it, but Begin played the chief role. What do you think?

[Volskiy] Yes, this is where the word "but" comes in. Of course the Camp David deal is to Israel's advantage: That is undubitable, or rather I would put it this way: It would be very advantageous to Israel if Israel, together with Egypt, were able to get albeit a few other Arab states involved in it as well. As is well-known, however, they have not managed to do this. On the contrary, the As-Sadat regime has found itself in utter isolation in the Arab world. Moreover, the position of the Egyptian president inside the country is becoming shaky. This is not because there has arisen a broad popular opposition movement; this movement is, as yet, rather amorphous. But in the top ruling circles the disagreements are building up. The foreign press reported, for example, that recently Vice President Mubarak has been engaged in, I would say, quite surprising activity. It asserts that, for example, he removed from office several top-ranking officials loyal to As-Sadat, and that apparently this was done with the agreement of the Americans who are of the opinion that As-Sadat has compromised himself too much in the eyes of Arab public opinion and that he is becoming a hindrance to U.S. policy. Perhaps all these calculations by the press are premature, though in my opinion they are quite plausible. But here is an indisputable fact: As you correctly remarked, Vadim Nikolayevich, two of the three organizers of the Camp David process--Carter and Begin--will be out of office in the very near future. It is no accident, therefore, that certain pre-Camp David plans are about to become moot.

For example there is the so-called Allon plan which was put forward by previous Israeli governments and envisaged a so-called territorial compromise with Jordan instead of the talks with Egypt on Palestinian autonomy which, as is well-known, have become deadlocked. They are starting once again to discuss this old plan, so far dragging it out only to the pages of the newspapers; but it does in any event show that neither the new U.S. administration, nor possibly the new Israeli administration, will center all their Near East plans on Camp David. It must be said, however, that the scope for these plans is not so great, since Jordan, for example--where intensive efforts are being made to involve it in the deals at the expense of the Palestinian movement--has recently made several very direct statements to the effect that it will not give in to this persuasion, and this has, of course, been noted in the Near East. Nonetheless, the intrigues continue to be woven, and the changing of the guard which will inevitably take place a little later in the Israeli capital will, I think, give those intrigues a new jolt, although where this jolt will push them it is still difficult to judge.

[Levin] It can be said, of course, with every justification, that both the government crisis in Israel and the early parliamentary elections which are to take place in the near future confirm, despite all the other shades of meaning, so to speak, one general and indisputable conclusion, hotbeds of tension cannot be eliminated behind people's backs or ignoring their aspirations. This goes not only for the Near East. It applies, to the same degree, to any region of the globe. And I would say there is another thing: sooner or later the truth will be known. We spoke about this at the very start of our program, recalling the very important peace proposals made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for settling the situation in the Persian Gulf area. The same thing can also be said of the trip by the three British Labor MP's to Afghanistan.

[Nekpasov] That was an interesting trip. It took place despite the cautionings--sounding like threats--that were issued by the British Foreign Office, and despite the menacing reaction from Conservative MP's. What was it all about? I, for example, think that the British authorities are afraid of the truth, which is why they tried to make the three Labor MP's abandon their trip.

[Levin] Perhaps in their own way the Conservatives were right. This is what Ronald Brown, Robert Litherland and Alan Roberts said: As far as we could judge, life in Kabul is normal, Brown said. To all intents and purposes there are no Soviet troops there: Control is in the hands of the Afghans. We noted to our satisfaction that the Afghan Government is in control of the situation in the country, said the statement by Roberts and Litherland. The members of the delegation said that on the streets of Kabul and Jalalabad the population moves about quite freely, and that government establishments, the army, militia and other organs of power are controlled by the Afghans themselves. The three Labor MP's who visited Afghanistan spoke of free movement about the country and said that they visited all the places they wanted to visit and met the people they wanted to meet. They said that the situation in Afghanistan had become normal, that life in the towns and districts they visited was calm, business was normal and offices and shops were working normally. Ronald Brown even stressed that most Western press reports of the situation in Afghanistan were exaggerated or simply did not correspond to reality. This is yet another piece of proof of the true situation in Afghanistan and it is well-known that Western propaganda is piling up heaps of lies about the country and events in the country. The fact that those accounts reveal the truth indicates that nothing can conceal the truth. This truth, this reflection of life as it really is, this understanding of the need for a sober look at world developments, is, it can be said with every justification, spreading. This is probably the key to restrained optimism in assessing the prospects, the short-term prospects for development of the world situation. Our time on the program has come to an end. Thank you for listening all the best to you, dear comrade listeners.

PRAVDA REVIEWS POLAND, IRAN, HAIG, ISRAELI EVENTS

LD191133 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 81 p 4

[Valentin Shorov, "International Review"]

[Text] Proven Course

The fraternal socialist countries have entered a crucial period. They are summing up the results of the last 5-year plan and determining the main guidelines for socioeconomic development in 1981-1985, and in a number of cases for the period through 1990. The CPSU and the other fraternal parties are unanimous in the belief that wider use should be made of the reserves of socialist economic integration to expedite progress.

The coordinated course of deepening socialist economic integration was newly reaffirmed in the documents adopted on the results of the 98th CEMA Executive Committee sitting, which was held in Moscow 13-15 January. The Soviet Union and its CEMA partners laid the firm foundation for making the next two 5-year plans a period of intensive production and scientific and technical cooperation. Five long-term targeted cooperation programs were approved which cover leading sectors of the economy. Long-term bilateral programs for production specialization and cooperation between the USSR and the European CEMA countries were adopted. The coordination of state plans for 1981-1985 was largely completed.

The CEMA countries are already implementing more than 120 multilateral agreements to realize the long-term targeted cooperation programs. The Moscow meeting outlined measures to expedite the elaboration of other relevant agreements. That is understandable. The 5-year plans must provide for the requisite material, financial and manpower resources for implementing them.

The tasks the fraternal countries are today resolving require that the effectiveness of scientific and technical cooperation be improved. For this reason consultations were held during the Moscow meeting on questions of improving the cooperation among the CEMA members in the sphere of science and technology. The community states are seeking to organically combine scientific and technical cooperation and production and economic cooperation and to strengthen the comprehensive approach toward solving national economic problems.

The CEMA countries' representatives considered a number of other pressing issues: those of expanding cooperation with a view to meeting requirements for fuel and energy resources more fully in the period through 1990 and in the longer term, of joint work in the next 5-year plan to create modern metal-cutting machine tools with digital program control and others. A general agreement was signed on multilateral cooperation among the interested CEMA countries to promote the faster development of science and technology in the SRV in the period through 1990. This merely vividly reflected the spirit of fraternal mutual assistance and solidarity characterizing CEMA's activity. All the executive committee's work was permeated by concern for deepening the cooperation among the CEMA states and expediting their economic development.

The socialist community countries' combined economic might is growing steadily. At the same time their influence on the course of world events is becoming stronger and more profound and their contribution to resolving today's most urgent and most humane task--namely, ensuring a turn away from confrontation toward dialogue, away from the aggravation of conflicts to their settlement, or in other words, consolidating the peace and security of the world's peoples--is becoming weightier.

The socialist states' peaceful aspirations are reflected in a number of recent actions and initiatives. First of all, there are the USSR's constructive proposals on questions of disarmament, of lessening the danger of war, of ensuring peace in the Persian Gulf and of strengthening the detente process. Last week's session of the Polish Sejm Foreign Affairs Commission was also typical.

The Soviet Union, Poland and the other Warsaw Pact members consistently advocate that political detente be complemented by military detente. It is with this that they associate the further development of European cooperation. As the Sejm commission session noted, recent events and the meetings and conversations among the leaders of the two fraternal parties and states show that the alliance and cooperation with the land of the soviets are of supreme significance in Polish foreign policy.

Each new step forward by our cooperation elicits furious malice from socialism's enemies. They are obstinately seeking to shake the fraternal states' unity, discredit the gains of the people's power and undermine working people's belief in communist ideals. Of late Poland has been the target of this provocative activity. Repeated mention has already been made of the events in Poland, the reasons for the difficulties that have arisen on the road of its socialist development and the PZPR's efforts to normalize the situation. Implementing the instructions of the recent Central Committee plenums, the party is rallying the aktiv and all society's creative forces to resolve the socio-economic tasks in surmounting the difficulties that have arisen. This has been shown, in particular, by the last few days, when the majority of working people have shown understanding of their duty. This conclusion was drawn by the PZPR Central Committee Politburo when it analyzed information on production collectives' work on Saturday 10 January. In defiance of the call from the Solidarity trade union leadership, which declared the day to be a day off, the majority of working people went to work, thereby contributing to the process of normalizing life in the country.

Who Is It That Is Threatening Peace

The vocal slander campaign in the West about the "Soviet threat" continues unabated. The mass media, generals and politicians, past and future representatives of the echelons of power are taking part in it. They see the "red specter" and "Soviet supremacy" everywhere--Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa. Meanwhile, as the week's events showed once again, a threat to peace is really looming--a real threat stemming from the U.S. actions a long way beyond its own borders, from the Pentagon's quest for military superiority or, as people in Washington now sometimes put it, "a position of great strength."

The peoples are watching events in El Salvador with lively sympathy and alarm: sympathy for the heroic freedom fighters; alarm over the intensifying interference by the United States and its hirelings in Salvadoran affairs--interference on the side of the fascist junta. Helping the junta, Washington has resumed arms deliveries to the antipopular, blood-drenched regime. As the curtain falls, just a few days before its departure from the scene, the Carter administration is once again demonstrating just how the United States understands the "struggle for human rights."

The dangerous new U.S. intrigues in the Persian Gulf have caused the peoples serious concern. Creating bases there and gathering a mighty naval armada in a strike force, the United States is looming menacingly over Iran. According to reports in the Beirut press, the main purpose of former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger's recent tour of a number of Near Eastern and African countries was to prepare a possible military adventure.

It has long since been proved that the "Soviet threat" myth is a screen for militarist activity. Using this malicious fantasy as cover, NATO Secretary General J. Luns a few days ago demanded that NATO's police functions be extended to the world's "hot" spots and that the bloc countries' military potential continue to be increased. Z. Brzezinski, for the last 4 years the U.S. President's main adviser, chimed in. On the same "grounds" as the professional provocateur Luns, he called for the United States and its allies to unite in a crusade against the USSR and to create for this purpose something like a top-level world headquarters--under American leadership, of course.

And, finally, to the accompaniment of complaints about the same old "threat" the Carter administration has given the American people a truly "historic gift"--a 1982 draft budget in which, for the first time in U.S. history, military spending tops \$200 billion: the total sum is set at \$200.3 billion!

"The question now is how Reagan can increase the budget still further, as he promised, and at the same time avoid an economic collapse," writes the Washington POST, racking its brains. But even without this dilemma is it absolutely clear just who is fanning the flames in the furnace of the headlong arms race, which is fraught with the threat of a world thermonuclear conflict.

Against this background particular interest has been caused in recent days by A. Haig's statements in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where his nomination for the post of U.S. secretary of state has been being ratified. The former NATO supreme allied commander Europe will henceforth head the foreign policy department of the major capitalist power. What baggage will he take with him into the Cabinet?

A. Haig formulates his views with perfect clarity. Detente and parity in the military sphere? They are "a rhetorical mirage." Talks with the USSR on limiting strategic arms? U.S. strategic positions must first be strengthened. The situation in Asia? "The United States cannot allow itself to withdraw troops from the Korean Peninsula." The Persian Gulf? "The United States must be ready to act alone if necessary."

In brief, the secretary of state-designate advocated the buildup of U.S. military preparations and, the U.S. newspapers write, showed up as a "hardliner" with respect to the USSR, and not just the USSR. Of course, Haig could not totally ignore widespread public feelings both in the United States and the whole world in favor of easing international tension. In deference to them, he asserted that the new administration will give priority to problems of "arms control and negotiations with the USSR." However, what specific measures Washington intends to implement in this sphere remains unclear.

Haig's statement that there are more important things than peace has generated considerable confusion in the West. According to reports in the West German newspapers the FRG Government has "voiced concern" on this subject. "Some figures," the newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU writes in alarm, "view peace only through the gunsights of a tank.... However, for West Europe there is nothing more important than living in peace under conditions determined by the Europeans themselves."

No, the Europeans definitely do not want the eighties to be turned into a "decade of crisis." And there are sociopolitical forces and real opportunities for defending peace on earth. The struggle against the threat of nuclear war is growing with every passing day. The European people's resistance to the plans to deploy new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on the territory of a number of NATO countries is becoming increasingly active. The socialist states are acting in the vanguard of the peace-loving forces.

Political Bankruptcy

Dispatches from the Near East region include many reports this week devoted not only to Israel's aggressive actions but also to the situation in Israel itself where a political crisis is raging. The immediate cause was the resignation of the minister of finances. As a result Begin's government lost its majority in the Knesset (parliament).

Government crises in the capitalist states are a frequent occurrence. However, this time we are talking about an event which has attracted the attention of the political circles of various countries. [paragraph continues]

For almost 4 years the Begin government, relying on the support of U.S. imperialism, has been pursuing an overtly antipopular, anti-Arab policy within Israel and in the international arena, putting the country's economy on the verge of catastrophe.

Even according to official figures, inflation was almost 150 percent in the country in 1980, and according to certain authoritative sources it was 200 percent. This has caused a wave of price increases. Over the past year the population's consumption of foodstuffs has dropped 8-9 percent which includes a 15 percent reduction in consumption of milk and dairy products, a 10 percent reduction in meat consumption, a 20 percent reduction in fish consumption and an 8 percent reduction in fruit consumption. There are tens of thousands of unemployed in the country. Israel's foreign debts last year alone increased by \$6 billion, reaching \$30 billion.

As is always the case in the world of capital, the government sought a way out of the difficulties by means of an offensive on the working people's vital rights. Wages were frozen, taxes increased, and appropriations for housing construction, medical services and public education cut back. In 1980, according to Israeli official organs, a record number of citizens--about 33,000--left the country.

One Western newspaper noted not without sarcasm that "Begin is leaving his successors a mound of ruins." What is the main reason for this economic catastrophe? Commentators link it organically with the aggressive policy of Israel's ruling circles. The government has placed an excessive burden of military expenditure on the people's shoulders. The following fact speaks for itself: Over the past decade per capita military expenditure has increased tenfold and become the highest in the world.

A large army, modern weapons and an economy on military lines are necessary to the country's ruling circles for aggression against neighboring Arab peoples, for the retention of occupied territories and for the undermining of the Palestine resistance movement. The present political crisis has revealed all the perniciousness, futility and hopelessness of this course.

Begin's bankruptcy is, finally, the bankruptcy of the gamble on the separate deal between Washington, Tel Aviv and Cairo. The Camp David agreements have not resolved a single one of the fundamental problems which make the region an explosive one--primarily the Palestinian problem.

Today it is hard to ignore events in Israel. According to press reports a decision will be taken very soon to hold unscheduled parliamentary elections. The newspapers are agreed that in this case the opposition Israeli Labor Party headed by S. Peres would have a better chance of succeeding.

The political crisis in Israel has shown again that there can be only one way of resolving the Near East problem: The liberation of all occupied Arab lands, the granting to the Palestinians of the right to self-determination and the creation of their own state and the safeguarding of the security of the existence and development of all countries of the region.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL'S DETENTE STANCE HIT

LD161223 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jan 81 p 6

[Yu. Zhilin article: "Socialist International and Military Detente"]

[Text] What will the eighties be like? Will a new--even more dangerous--arms race spiral begin or will a path be found toward reducing the level of military confrontation? No single serious political current can avoid the choice between these two paths nowadays. From this viewpoint it makes sense to examine the stances and actions of the Social Democrats--one of the influential forces of the present day. So what choice is this political current making?

The most complete answer to this question would seem to have been given by the results of last November's 15th Socialist International Congress in Madrid where the first question to be examined was that of the Social Democrats' activity in the international policy sphere for the eighties. The congress adopted a number of positive decisions. In the same sphere, however, there are also the decisions of NATO--an organization to which a number of countries controlled by governments in which Social Democrats participate belong. Thus, despite the obvious difference between these two organizations, it is perfectly legitimate to compare their decisions.

One cannot fail to concur with the criterion advanced in the congress report by Socialist International Chairman W. Brandt: "When it is a question of mankind's survival, the Socialist International cannot restrict itself to the passing of resolutions, however good they may be in themselves. What is necessary is a will to change the course of events...."

Let us correlate this criterion with two problems. The first problem is the Social Democrats' attitude toward the December (1979) decisions of the NATO Council's Brussels session on the production and deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles on the European continent. The second problem is the attitude toward the "new nuclear strategy" advanced by the U.S. administration last summer.

Many participants in the congress discussion linked the question of implementing the NATO Brussels decisions with the issue of the SALT II treaty ratification. Thus, in connection with the stance adopted toward SALT II during the [U.S. presidential] election campaign by the newly-elected U.S. president, Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] representative K. Voigt noted that a "new situation is emerging" and it must be examined since the precondition has been overturned on whose basis certain Social Democratic parties agreed to the production and deployment of the new missiles on their countries' territory. "If we cannot influence the U.S. position," he said, "the appropriate conclusions must be drawn." Austrian Socialist Party representative W. Hacker, secretary of the Socialist International working group on disarmament problems stated: "We oppose the deployment of new nuclear missiles in Europe." Speaking on behalf of the Socialist International's womens' organization, British Labor Party representative J. Little said that the womens' organization conference, held on the eve of the opening of the congress, sees the deployment of the medium-range missiles in Europe as intensifying the danger of war. "We," she stated, "oppose their presence on Europe's territory and, in particular, we are in favor of a review of the decision on cruise missiles."

At a press conference, Socialist International Secretary General B. Carlsson singled out among the ideas expressed during the discussion the proposal to determine a deadline after which, and in the absence of agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on nuclear arms limitation in Europe, "the Europeans must display their own initiative on this issue." Finally, the report of the Socialist International's working group on disarmament problems contains a highly important thesis. "The aims of the discussions connected with SALT II," it says, "are now more vital than ever: namely, change toward real reductions and the suspension of the research into, and of the creation and testing of, new types of armaments."

Then a few weeks later, after the Socialist International congress, there was a meeting of the so-called NATO "Eurogroup" in the Belgian capital on 8 December 1980 under the chairmanship of FRG Defense Minister H. Apel who is an SPD member. As the communique says, the ministers participating in the meeting "confirmed their viewpoint on that score that it is necessary to update the long-range theater forces (this is how the North Atlantic bloc terms medium-range missiles--Yu Zh.) in order to satisfy NATO's requirements in the defense and deterrence spheres and in order to establish a basis for serious talks on the limitation of theater forces." It emerges that not only the NATO decisions but also their implementation form an essential precondition for talks!

Later, there was more. A ministerial-level session of the NATO Military [as published] Planning Committee was held 9-10 December. The final communique notes in particular that the "comprehensive national military [as published] programs responding to the 1981-1986 force goals will provide significant improvements in the overall deterrent and defense posture of the NATO alliance." The ministers noted that "the Pershing II and ground launched cruise missile programs are proceeding on schedule, with a view to introduction of the first such missiles by the end of 1983...."

Unlike the Socialist International resolution, the NATO leadership proceeds from the fact that it is precisely an arms buildup that is, allegedly, a prerequisite for consolidating peace in the eighties; that the arms buildup also includes new types of weapons, including cruise missiles; and that the new situation emerging over the SALT II treaty and in connection with the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva has virtually no influence on NATO's plans regarding the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Europe.

As for the specific countries on whose territory these missiles are to be deployed, AFP has reported that the FRG is to announce "in the very near future" the particular points where they will be deployed at the end of 1983. It was noted here that all 108 Pershing II missiles are destined for the FRG.

The same agency reported that the refusal to ratify the SALT II treaty "might delay the deployment of cruise missiles in Belgium and the Netherlands" which have made their decision dependent on the "results of the U.S.-Soviet talks."

And finally, Italy. It is known that "Italy has already assumed very serious military commitments," and mention was made of this in a recent newspaper interview by A. Boldrini, a member of the Italian Communist Party Directorate and of the [Italian] Senate Commission on Defense Questions. He noted that there are already "600 nuclear warheads deployed" in the country. Despite that, the Italian Government which at present includes socialists, has concurred with the NATO decision which envisages deploying new U.S. medium-range nuclear facilities in Italy, too. The question of their use, and, hence the country's destiny, too, have effectively been placed in the Pentagon's hands. The plans to transform Italy into an even more extensive U.S. nuclear missile bridgehead are thus on the Socialist Party leadership's conscience. That leadership is displaying the height of irresponsibility toward its own people and is playing with the country's national interests. Addressing the Socialist International Congress in Madrid, Italian Socialist Party Secretary General B. Craxi did not refrain from jibing at the defeated J. Carter, reproaching him--justly, moreover--for the fact that the President failed to bridge the gap between what has been said and what has been done. But it is not only across the ocean that this reproach could be directed....

The Norwegian Labor Party [DNA] position is worth examining too. As is well known, its leadership supported the decision to deploy the new U.S. missiles in Europe. True, it did confirm that, as far as the territory of Norway itself is concerned, foreign military bases and nuclear weapons would not be deployed there in peacetime....

Soon a new problem arose: Bilateral talks began with the United States on the question of stockpiling U.S. heavy arms on Norwegian territory. Grounds appeared for believing that matters were proceeding in the direction of the creation of material preconditions for Norway's departure from its policy of not having military bases and nuclear weapons on its soil.

The Norwegian public protested stormily against the conclusion of an appropriate agreement; action committees were formed with the slogan "No Stockpiling!" Signatures were collected for protest petitions and over 120,000 signatures were sent to the government. Many local DNA organizations and various sectorial trade unions, dominated by Social Democrats, actively participated in this movement. The DNA's youth organization also protested resolutely against stockpiling. However, the leadership of the party itself, like the government, did not heed the opinion of rank and file members. After stormy debates at various levels, the party leadership's line prevailed, and the DNA National Executive voted by 30 to 6 in favor of approving the Norwegian-U.S. agreement.

Let us now turn to the second problem--the Socialist International's attitude toward the U.S. "new nuclear strategy." The speech by British Labour Party representative A. Kitson attracted attention at the Madrid congress. "...We do not approve of the concept of limited nuclear war," he stated. "Directive 59 is a threat to all Europeans." The "limited" nuclear war concept was condemned in the resolution adopted by the Socialist International congress, but in a quite ambiguous form, to put it mildly. The gamble on "limited nuclear war" is ascribed in the resolution not just to the United States but also to...the Soviet Union.

What is the position of NATO's leading organs on this problem?

The communique of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group, whose session was held in Brussels in November, says that this directive strengthens "the deterrent strategy within the NATO framework while increasing the flexibility of its forces." The defense ministers who participated in the session also "confirmed that the U.S. strategic policy in the context of NATO strategy remains the center of the satisfactory deterrence of the threat created by Soviet nuclear forces...."

What the Socialist International congress delegates termed "terrible," NATO's leading organs, in which certain Social Democratic ministers participated, were characterizing at the same time as "satisfactory"....

It would be an oversimplification, of course, to see a discrepancy only between the more or less good resolutions of the Socialist International congress and the degree of the Social Democrats' will to implement them. There exists a clear difference of stances on a number of practical issues of military detente even among the Socialist International's member parties. There is often no unity on these issues even within certain Social Democratic parties.

One cannot fail to see the clear new trends in the Socialist International social democracy's foreign policy concepts in the last decade. Its positive direction--in favor of detente, disarmament and improving cooperation between the capitalist and socialist countries--cannot be discounted. It is precisely these improvements that are creating the prerequisites for broad contacts and broad dialogue between communists, in particular, and socialists and Social Democrats in the name of "continuing the detente policy and seeking ways to reduce arms on our continent," as it says in the appeal of the Paris meeting of European communist and workers' parties.

Not only rank and file members of Social Democratic parties but also many of their leaders are concerned by the turnaround in U.S. foreign policy--by its gamble on militarism and on undermining detente. Despite the protests in their ranks, however, certain influential Socialist International parties are adapting their position to the U.S. administration's flagrant pressure. But is this time-serving so fatally inevitable?
[paragraph continues]

There is a fresh example before us--the statement of the last British Labor Party annual conference that it supports the elimination of "all nuclear bases, British or American, on British territory or in British territorial waters." This Labor Party position was even enshrined in the report of the Socialist International working group on disarmament problems. One cannot fail to see that the stances of the Belgian socialist and the Dutch Labor Party against the deployment of new nuclear missiles in West Europe promoted the emergence in those countries of a mass movement of the public who reject the plans to deploy the new missiles on their territories.

Nevertheless, one cannot ignore the discrepancy in the practical sphere of social democracy's conduct. References to the fact that Socialist International's decisions are not of a binding character for the parties belonging to it and are thus far from always fulfilled by them can scarcely explain the situation. Surely closer to the truth is the fact that it is hard to pursue a consistent line if, on the decisive issues and at the decisive moments it is subordinated to considerations which are far from the national interests. It is not that someone wants to cause a split in "Atlantic solidarity." It is not fortuitous that incantations about its priority over all other problems start ringing out with each new action of Washington's anti-detente policy. At such moments alignment with Washington also appears on the part of the leadership of individual but influential Social Democratic parties on highly important practical issues, on whose solution the existence of military detente depends.

There is no doubt that the duality in international social democracy's stances greatly weakens the significance of Socialist International's decision even when their content meets the interests of military detente to some degree.

DRA ISSUES STATEMENT ON UPCOMING MUSLIM SUMMIT

LD172358 Moscow TASS in English 2154 GMT 17 Jan 81

["Statement of the DRA Foreign Ministry"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, 17 Jan, TASS--The DRA Foreign Ministry issued a statement here today in connection with a summit conference of Moslem countries, due to be held in Mecca late in January.

The forthcoming conference, the statement says, will be held in a very dramatic and strained period of the history of the Islamic world and the Middle East region, at a time when imperialism, specifically U.S. imperialism, and Zionism are intensifying their aggression and are threatening peace in the region and all over the world.

This is why, in the opinion of the DRA, the countries of the Islamic world should concentrate their attention on ways to settle the most important and acute problems of these countries--problems which are consequences of the Israeli aggression and occupation of Arab lands, the separate manoeuvres of Israel, Egypt and the USA. The Islamic Conference Organization member-states should condemn the armed aggression of American imperialism and other forms of pressure on fraternal Arab peoples, demand an immediate withdrawal of American naval forces from the Persian Gulf, liquidation of its military bases in the region and an end to the activization of foreign military penetration into the Near and Middle East area.

One of the most pressing problems is search for efficient ways and means to ensure the inalienable legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create an independent state of their own, and the liberation of Jerusalem, of course the conference should touch upon the issue of the tragic conflict between Iraq and Iran. It should help find a peaceful settlement of the conflict. The main result of the forthcoming conference should be consolidation of all fraternal Moslem countries, the DRA Foreign Ministry's statement stresses.

As has become known, the statement goes on to say, the reactionary and ruling circles of a number of Islamic countries are trying again to include the so-called "Afghan question" in the conference's agenda. It is quite obvious that the attempt has nothing in common with the interests of Islamic countries and pursues the only aim of deteriorating the situation around Afghanistan and launch an anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet propaganda campaign.

What is going on in Afghanistan is in full measure an internal affair of our country and does not present a threat to peace and security in the region or in the world. There is no strife between Afghanistan and Pakistan, between Afghanistan and Iran. The DRA has no territorial claims to these countries. In reality, certain problems have been created by the counter-revolutionary bands, financed and armed by American imperialism and Beijing hegemonism, which have received shelter in some neighbouring countries, mostly in Pakistan, and which, from these territories, are carrying out aggressive actions and are interfering in different forms in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

The DRA Government has suggested to the governments of Pakistan and Iran that the problems be settled by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations. The programme of political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and normalization of relations with Pakistan and Iran was outlined in the DRA Government's statement dated May 14, 1980.

Whereas the internal development of Afghanistan does not present a threat to peace and security in the region or in the world, the statement says, it is Afghanistan that has become an object of aggressive actions from outside and other forms of interference in its internal affairs. It is for this reason that a limited contingent of Soviet troops has been invited to Afghanistan in order to help the Afghan people and the DRA's Armed Forces to repel the aggression. The statement of the Soviet Union and the DRA, signed in Moscow on October 16, 1980, in the course of the official friendly visit to the Soviet Union of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the DRA Babrak Karmal, says: "As for the limited Soviet military contingent which is on the DRA's territory at the request of the Afghan Government in conformity with the 1978 Soviet-Afghan treaty and the U.N. Charter, the question of the terms of its withdrawal can be considered in the context of political settlement and not before there is a complete end to aggression against the DRA and guarantees are given of the non-resumption of subversive actions from abroad against the people of the DRA and its government."

The positive changes that have been going on in the DRA since the April revolution entered a new stage of development, are being met with growing understanding and support by the broad working masses of the country's population, which is a sign of the increasing consolidation of popular power, economic development, implementation of the land reform, consolidation of law and order and continuation of the normalization process in the country as a whole. The recent conference of national and patriotic forces, held recently in Kabul, on the issue of the formation of a broad National Fatherland Front to unite all the classes, sections and groups of the Afghan society, has been an important event.

The fact is obvious to every objective observer, the DRA Foreign Ministry's statement stresses, that the attempts to impose a discussion of the so-called "Afghan question" on the forthcoming conference seek primarily divert [as received] its attention away from the really acute and pressing problems of the Islamic world. To stop such attempts, it is necessary to take measures to discuss the acute problems, so as not to waste time on discussing questions dealing a blow at the unity of the Islamic world, so that its victory in the joint struggle against the enemies be ensured. As for the decision connected with the temporary suspension of the DRA's membership in the Islamic Conference Organization, it is necessary to stress that the decision is unjust and ungrounded. At the same time the DRA Foreign Ministry states with all responsibility that the DRA will not consider itself committed to decisions or resolutions taken at the conference in the absence of Afghanistan's delegation.

U.S., IRAN REACH AGREEMENT ON RELEASE OF HOSTAGES

Carter Confirmation

LD191058 Moscow TASS in English 1053 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 19 Jan, TASS--U.S. President Carter confirmed today that Iran and the United States reached agreement on the release of the American hostages. Carter said that the agreement was signed in Algiers by American representatives after it had been signed in Iran. The agreement stipulates that after the release of the hostages President Carter will unblock and hand over to Iran a considerable part of Iranian assets frozen in the United States after the emergence of the Iranian-American conflict.

Nabavi Cited

LD181730 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] New York, 18 Jan, TASS--According to UPI agency reports, the PARS agency said that Iranian Executive Affairs Minister Behzad Nabavi said in Tehran today that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States had at last reached agreement today on the settlement of the hostages issue.

REPORTS, COMMENT ON 'THREATENED' INTERVENTION

No Resolution by Force

LD190957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 81 p 5

["Observer's Opinion" by Pavel Demchenko]

[Text] Reports which arrived in the editorial office today testify to the danger posed to peace by the U.S. adventurist policy in respect to Iran.

The threat of armed U.S. intervention has been hanging like the sword of Damocles over that country since the very outset of the Iranian revolution. It is the overthrow of the shah and the collapse of American positions in Iran, which were presented by the Pentagon as one of the "most forcible" arguments in favor of dispatching its fleet into the Persian Gulf and hastily setting up its Rapid Deployment Force. The emergence of the hostage problem in November 1979 was urged to intensify pressure on Tehran.

Assessing the developments which have occurred since that time, many foreign observers come to the conclusion that possibilities to resolve this problem were opened on several occasions. Washington, however, did not use them, preferring to brandish arms and even undertaking the so-called "rescue operation" in April 1980, that is, in fact, an aggressive incursion into the Iranian territory by its air force and landing units. From the military viewpoint, it was, as is known, a complete failure, while in the political aspect, it aggravated even more the U.S.-Iranian relations.

Washington did not stop its dishonorable game around the hostages, although, the matter is not reduced only to them. Reports were made in the newspapers in many countries, including the United States, that under the cover of negotiations on that problem the Pentagon is preparing a new "intimidating" operation against Iran. This dangerous adventure can be executed at any moment. Washington has probably decided that the period of the "accumulation of forces" has ended and it is high time that it used them on the pretext of the current American-Iranian conflict.

It must be recalled in this connection that the Soviet Union repeatedly stressed the inadmissibility of any foreign interference in Iran's domestic affairs. The problems of that region should not in any case be resolved by force.

Dissatisfaction With Reports

LD182250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] As a DPA correspondent reports from Washington, dissatisfaction with reports in the foreign press about U.S. preparations for intervention in Iran is being expressed. Judging by this dispatch, our commentator Viktor Levin notes that they are trying in the U.S. capital to represent PAI [PRESS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA] reports and a number of newspapers of the Arab states as a groundless propaganda campaign.

However, the absence of facts to the contrary leaves no doubt that the reports containing the disclosure have hit the bullseye, and it is for this reason that attempts are being made to pass off black for white. The wise saying of the ancient Romans, who said: "Jove, you are angry, therefore you are wrong," applies to full measure to the position adopted in the U.S. capital. How can these statements be justified in the United States has concentrated an immense naval armada in the region of the Persian Gulf and units intended for interventionist aims, and a Rapid Deployment Force, are being transferred to the countries of the Near and Middle East, and military operations in localities with similarities to Iran have been perfected in the United States, about which the U.S. press itself has written?

Suffice it to recall that in his time as secretary of state--and 4 years have elapsed since then--Kissinger stated plainly the possibility of U.S. Armed Forces being used in the Near and Middle East if Washington should consider this necessary in connection with oil supplies. Moreover, sabre rattling has recently become an even more entrenched part of the activities of U.S. politicians, and for this reason one may suppose an even greater stepping-up of military preparations threatening the peace and security of countries of the Persian Gulf region. This is also witnessed by the position adopted by the United States in connection with the proposals for normalization of the situation in the region put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. As is known from these proposals, they do not provide for anything (?new), apart from establishment in the Persian Gulf zone of firm and stable peace.

But it is this very thing that is not to Washington's liking. In light of the facts, the harsh but unsubstantiated statements about the alleged groundlessness of the exposures about the aggressive intentions of the United States are nothing but an attempt to silence the voice of truth. But this is just as futile as sticking your head in the sand [zakryt ladonyu solntse].

Moscow Persian Comment

GF172020 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, according to the Indian news agency, the United States is busy preparing for military aggression against Iran. The plan for this military intervention has now been completely organized. The purpose of this operation, the details of which have been previously reviewed in detail, is to free the hostages by force or at least force the Iranian Government into unconditionally accepting U.S. terms. Washington wants to answer Iran in this manner concerning the legal Iranian demands about the return of the frozen Iranian assets in the United States.

According to an NBC television report, U.S. banks do not want to return the Iranian money. This is one of the major reasons for the United States' unwillingness to lose even a portion of the Iranian assets.

According to well-informed diplomatic sources in the Near East, Egyptian or Pakistani and Omani military bases will be used for this new U.S. intervention. According to a report by the Indian news agency, it is very possible that marines will land in the area of Bandar 'Abbas. Washington has asked its NATO allies to put their forces on alert for a possible confrontation.

The news of the U.S. military preparations for intervening in Iran has also been dispatched to India from London. Military circles in London are openly discussing an airlift of large U.S. Marine, airborne and Air Force units to West German, Spanish and Turkish bases and also to British bases in Cyprus. The Indian news agency writes that the massing of armed forces in the United States is directly related to Washington's preparation for a new aggressive operation against Iran.

Commentators have attributed former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger's recent trip to Israel, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Oman and Somalia to preparation and coordination for this aggressive plan. Lebanese papers report that in Cairo he discussed these matters with General Oveysi, the overzealous monarchist and leader of Iranian dissidents abroad. During this meeting plans to overthrow the present Iranian regime were reviewed.

The Lebanese paper ASH-SHA'B writes that during a 5 January meeting with General Eytan, chief of Israel's supreme command, Kissinger openly announced that should Iran not agree to U.S. demands concerning the release of the hostages, the United States would resort to force. [Words indistinct] writes that according to reports, the Rapid Deployment Force stationed in Egypt has just been put on full alert for an attack against Iran. A similar command has been given to Israeli forces.

PRAVDA, published in Moscow, while pointing out the danger to peace created by the adventurous U.S. policy toward Iran, has noted that the Soviet Union has repeatedly announced that any intervention in Iranian internal affairs is unacceptable.

Indian News Agency Claims

LD161334 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpt] New Delhi, 16 Jan, TASS--According to a report of the Indian PAI News Agency, Washington is preparing an armed aggression against Iran. The aim of this carefully planned action is to free the hostages by force, or at least make the Iranian Government accept unconditionally the American terms. According to well-informed diplomatic sources in the Middle East countries, a fresh act of U.S. intervention is to be launched from military bases in Egypt, or Pakistan and Oman. According to the Indian PAI agency, a U.S. force is most likely to be landed in Bandar 'Abbas area of Iran. Washington has demanded that its NATO allies place their armed forces on high alert for the emergency of a "possible confrontation".

Reports about a U.S. intervention, which is being prepared, have come to India also from London. Military circles in the British capital are openly speaking of an airlift of big contingents of U.S. airborne troops and Airforce to the bases in the FRG, Spain, Turkey and British bases in Cyprus. This massing of U.S. troops, the PAI agency points out, is directly connected with a fresh action of aggression against Iran, which is being prepared by Washington.

Further on Indian Claims

LD171842 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] The press agency of India reports that United States is preparing armed aggression against Iran. Here are more details.

The purpose of the carefully planned action, the agency says, is to free the hostages or at least force the Government of Iran to accept the United States terms unconditionally. This will be Washington's reply to the legitimate demands of Tehran for the return of the Iranian assets frozen in American banks. According to the American TV company NBC, the unwillingness of the United States to part with even some of the Iranian assets is explained not least of all by the fact that American banks simply do not want to give up the money.

Well-informed diplomatic quarters in the Middle East say the United States will stage its own invasion from base in Egypt or Pakistan and Oman. According to the press agency of India, United States troops will most likely be landed in the area of Bandar 'Abbas in Iran. Washington has demanded that its NATO allies alert their armed forces in the event of what they refer to as possible confrontation.

India has also had reports from London on preparations for an American invasion. Military quarters in London speak openly for an airlift of large contingents of United States airborne troops and air forces to bases in Federal Germany, Spain and Turkey and to British bases in Cyprus. The press agency of India says this massing of United States Armed Forces is directly connected with the new aggression against Iran which Washington plans. The plan is said to be linked with the recent visit of the former state secretary of the United States, Henry Kissinger, to Israel, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Oman and Somalia. The Lebanese press reports that in Cairo Henry Kissinger met with the leader of the Iranian opposition abroad, the rabid monarchist General Oveysi, and the two discussed preparations to overthrow the present Iranian regime.

The Lebanese newspaper ASH-SHA'B quoted Kissinger as saying at a meeting with the chief of staff of the Israeli Army, General Eytan, on 5 January, that if Iran failed to meet the American conditions for release of the hostages, the United States would resort to force. According to the same paper, units of the United States Rapid Deployment Force stationed in Egypt have already received orders to be in full combat readiness for an attack on Iran. The Israeli troops have been given the same orders.

In Moscow, the newspaper PRAVDA has pointed out that America's adventurist policy against Iran endangers peace. PRAVDA makes the reminder that the Soviet Union has repeatedly declared that any interference in the internal affairs of Iran is impermissible.

Kissinger Trip Linked to Plans

LD180411 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 16 Jan 81

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Igor Charikov and Andrey Ptashnikov]

[Text] The Indian news agency reports from Delhi today that Washington is preparing armed aggression against Iran. The aim of this action is twofold: if possible, to free the hostages by force but if this is not possible then to force the Iranian government to accept the American conditions. The agency thinks that the new act of armed intervention might be carried out from military bases on the territory of Egypt, Pakistan or Oman. According to the agency troops will most likely be landed in the Bandar 'Abbas area, in southwest Iran.

The speculation of the Indian agency is also confirmed by reports from London, where British military circles are speaking openly about an airlift of big detachments of American landing troops to U.S. Air Force bases in Western Europe. Such a concentration means that a big armed operation is being prepared somewhere nearby.

The situation arising around the matter of the hostages throws additional light on the aim and tasks of the recent trip made to the Near East by Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state. It is thought that Kissinger, in meeting the leaders of Egypt, Israel, Somalia and Oman, was preparing the groundwork for an armed attack by the United States against Iran. The Beirut paper ASH-SHA'B makes such an assumption. In Cairo Kissinger met General Oveysi, leader of the Iranian opposition abroad.

Let me add one point: For many years Kissinger was the personal friend of the former shah Reza Pahlavi and of his family and played a decisive role in the matter of where the exiled monarch was to live. It was Kissinger who convinced Carter of the need to grant refuge to the former shah in the United States and this, as you will know, led to a great complication in American-Iranian relations. [Words indistinct] capture of the American Embassy in Tehran.

Precisely. So Kissinger is to a [word indistinct] extent personally responsible for the crisis which has come about and which has been going on since November 1979. But either way [word indistinct] his trip to the Near East he tried hard to convince the allies of the United States of the need, and even of the inevitability, of using force in solving this conflict. Not limiting himself to a meeting with Iranian monarchists, Kissinger had a talk with General Eytan, chief of staff of the Israeli Army. He also let it be understood without a shadow of a doubt that in any future intervention operation a definite role would be given to Israel and Egypt as the main bases.

In this connection it is hard to say that it is pure coincidence that soon after Kissinger left, Rapid Deployment Force units stationed on the territory of Egypt received an order to be in a state of full military alert for an attack on Iran.

'URGENT' MILITARY AID GRANTED TO EL SALVADOR

LD181014 Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 18 Jan, TASS--Having discarded the prattling about "human rights protection," the Carter administration is openly aiding the sanguinary junta in El Salvador which is trying to put down its own people's struggle for freedom.

The U.S. State Department announced the granting of five million dollars in urgent military aid to the Salvadoran regime. The junta is given large consignments of ammunition and armaments, helicopters. Two helicopters manned by American crews are already on their way to El Salvador.

A statement of the State Department, published here, admits that Washington's step has been prompted by the defeats of the junta as a result of the extensive offensive by the patriots. The statement indicates that the Salvadoran Army urgently needs to replenish their losses and increase the firepower to combat the guerrillas.

RESUMPTION OF ARMS SUPPLIES TO SOMALIA VIEWED

LD171340 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 17 Jan, TASS--Defying the resolute protests of peace-loving African peoples, the United States decided to give the green light to military deliveries to the Somali regime. According to the newspaper Washington POST, the U.S. State Department allowed the resumption of large-scale arms deliveries to Somalia.

This decision lifts the formal ban on military aid to the aggressive country which openly claims vast areas of its neighbors Ethiopia and Kenya. It gives the free hand to Congress in respect to allocating 40 million dollars to Somalia to purchase American weapons.

The Washington POST writes that the chief cause of the decision is the use by the United States of military bases on the Somali territory within the framework of Washington's efforts to escalate its military presence in the Middle East and in the Persian Gulf area. These bases are designated for gendarme Rapid Deployment Force which Washington intends to use as the main tool of its imperialist policy in that oil-rich region. Signing the agreement on the use of military bases in Somalia in August last year, Washington pledged in exchange extensive military aid to Mogadishu. The decision of the State Department is only a formal step towards the implementation of this pledge.

The Washington POST indicates that military deliveries to Somalia are fraught with a serious danger to the United States for they may involve Washington in the complicated disputes around the Horn of Africa. The newspaper warns that any expansion of an armed conflict in that region in connection with the American action may present the new U.S. administration with the "crisis in Africa" since the first days of its staying in power.

U.S., NORWAY SIGN ARMS STOCKPILING AGREEMENT

'Resistance' to 'Scheme'

LD171204 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] An agreement has been signed in Washington between the United States and Norway on the stockpiling on Norwegian territory of heavy American military equipment for a brigade of U.S. Marines numbering up to 10,000, which could be sent from across the ocean in the event of a so-called crisis situation. The signing of this agreement, says international affairs journalist Anatoliy Antonov, is the culmination of a prolonged period of pressure from the senior NATO partner on Norway with the aim of making it agree to the creation there of stockpiles of artillery, tanks, armored vehicles and ammunition for American forces. The United States was striving for this end not purely for the sake of military conceptions, but also far-reaching political ones. The point is that Norway, with its proclaimed policy of refusing to have foreign military bases or nuclear weapons on its territory in peacetime, has always been a glaring anachronism from the point of view of the NATO strategists who have been trying in every way to get round this traditional Norwegian position. With this aim in mind numerous maneuvers have been held by NATO, on Norwegian territory. Norwegian airfields are being prepared to receive American atomic bombers. The country is included in the NATO AWACS electronic intelligence system.

To this is now added the presence on Norwegian territory of permanent stockpiles of American heavy weapons. Recently, the question of the American stockpiles has been the subject of acute disputes and has caused a deep split in the country. Not only left-wing political parties, trade unions and broad sections of the public oppose the agreement with the United States on these stockpiles, but also a considerable part of the ruling Norwegian Workers Party, including members of its leadership. Even among the military, opponents were to be found. For instance, Lieutenant Colonel (Hansen), deputy commander of a brigade in northern Norway, declared that the establishment of the stockpiles would increase tension in northern Europe.

The broad scale of resistance to the latest American-NATO scheme is explained by the fact that many people see in it the undermining of Norway's proclaimed principles and the further drawing of the country into the global nuclear strategy of the United States. This involves a greater threat to the security of Norway and serves as a source of tension in this part of the world.

Dobrov Comment

LD170336 Moscow in Finnish to Finland 1630 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] The Norwegian-American agreement on the storage of heavy U.S. arms in Norway is becoming a fact. As is known, it involves the advance storage of ammunition and transportation equipment in Norway for the U.S. Marine brigade that would be sent to Norway in case of a so-called crisis situation. Our commentator Mikhail Dobrov writes:

The agreement which has been forced on Norway is a result of the military activity of the Pentagon and NATO in northern Europe. Besides the storage of American arms in Norway and Denmark, other facts indicate the strengthening of the U.S. and NATO military presence in Scandinavia. Norway already belongs to the NATO communications system AWACS, which has given the Pentagon the capability of using for its own purposes aerial surveillance, the airspace of the country and its airports. Nuclear submarines will arrive in Norwegian ports, while on the basis of an eventual crisis situation a Danish-American agreement was concluded on establishing U.S. air bases on Danish territory.

Attaching themselves with various military agreements to the United States, representatives of Norwegian and Danish Government circles continue to talk about their loyalty to a basic policy of not allowing the placing of foreign bases and nuclear arms on their territories. But the agreements they have signed can lead to the torpedoing of that policy. Thus the guns stored in Norway can also use nuclear charges, and the F-111 bombers also belong to the nuclear weapons category. The Pentagon intends to place these bombers in Norway.

The militarization of northern Europe becomes particularly dangerous against the background of the well-known Directive 59 concerning the possibility of a restricted nuclear war and the doctrine of the American pre-emptive strike. In fact it means that the United States can at will create a crisis situation in Europe and use Norway as a bridgehead with all the consequent results. But there is an entirely different way that leads to security in northern Europe. It entails northern Europe avoiding the intensification of military confrontation and supporting initiatives aimed at the protection of this area against the danger of nuclear and other war.

ZORIN LOOKS FOR 'COMMONSENSE' FROM NEW GOVERNMENT

LD181338 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] Next week in Washington DC, President Carter, (?who is just about to leave us), will hand over his functions to a Republican administration headed by Ronald Reagan. I will hardly surprise you by saying there is keen interest in the Soviet Union (?for) the coming [word indistinct] administration. Relations with America are of sufficient importance for us Soviet people to take a great interest in what line the new U.S. president will follow.

So far, we can judge about the Reagan government's plans only by the numerous statements made by the president-elect and the (?Cabinet) members he has appointed, including their latest statements. True though, as George Bernard Shaw once said, it is not the last word but the first deed that counts.

There is generally a difference between what leaders say when they assume office in Washington and how they have to act after the burden of responsibility for America's political line rests on their shoulders. And yet I (?would give) my personal assessment from some statements (?made by) members of the incoming administration. As you read them (?you) unwilling think that the men who make them evidently overestimate the role of the (?subjective) factor in politics. The fact America is facing rather complex problems today is due not to lack of desire or to insufficient efforts in Washington to solve these problems in recent years. It is due to objective circumstances.

There is much talk in Washington currently that the most pressing problems the new administration will face from its first days in office, are economic ones. Naturally, just as its predecessor, the Carter government has made mistakes and has (?taken) steps in a bid to cope with America's economic difficulties that had been growing over the years. However, it is clear to any sensible person that the main reason for the economic difficulties are not some mistake from miscalculation by administration leaders; (?there are) objective circumstances. The new administration will inherit the entire load of the current problems. To assume that a change of men in the Washington departments can solve the problems is to entertain vain dreams.

The same applies [word indistinct] to foreign policy. The [word indistinct] some members of the Reagan Cabinet [word indistinct] reflects at best their excessive self-assurance and at worst their inability, at least at this stage, to think realistically. The fact Washington has had to give up in recent years its claim for diktat in international affairs to continue the notorious policy from positions of strength, is due not at all to a lack of firmness but only that Washington leaders have learned from their own experience a political truth, formulated in the 19th century by the German Chancellor Otto von Bismark who said that politics is an art of the impossible.

There are factors in the world today that mean much more than personal [word indistinct] intentions or [word indistinct] of some particular American politicians and statesmen. These factors include, above all, the (?realignment of forces), the might of the countries that the United States has to deal with whether Washington leaders wish so or not.

It has been fashionable in Washington lately to speak of a need to get some sort of superiority over the Soviet Union before reaching agreement with her on key problems, including those related to the build-up in strategic armaments. This is passed off as some new word in politics. But there is certainly some truth in the saying that all new things are well-forgotten old things. There is nothing new in the concept put forward today by some Washington policy-makers. For the past few decades, since the end of the Second World War, the United States has been (?wasting) great efforts and enormous funds to get a military superiority over the Soviet Union. The failure of these efforts was what forced the Washington administration 10 years ago, also in [word indistinct] by the way, to [word indistinct] (?facilities) of a need to proceed from competition to negotiation. It is apt to ask the men who again (?settle) for confrontation and would like to gain superiority over the Soviet Union [words indistinct] why do they believe that in the eighties it will be possible to achieve what was impossible to achieve in the fifties and sixties. Has the Soviet Union become weaker since then? Has (?its) economic, scientific, and technological [word indistinct] declined? Or is she less determined, and has the possibility to do its best to [word indistinct] national security been reduced? Wishful thinking is a poor principle for a policy maker. Efforts to build up military potential will come up against [words indistinct].

The experience [words indistinct] to the fact that makes it possible to avoid a repetition of past mistakes. Soviet people, confident of their strength [words indistinct] that is the reason why today, (?certainly) before the new administration takes over in Washington, Soviet people would like to hope that commonsense will prevail in Washington and that political rhetoric [words indistinct].

CARTER BEQUEATHS 'GRIM, MILITARISTIC' LEGACY

LD161412 Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 16 Jan 81

["At the Last Moment..."--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Jan, TASS--TASS news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes: In the course of presidential elections the majority of the American electorate said "no" to the Carter administration, thus having rejected Washington's adventurism in its foreign policy affairs.

But there is a characteristic feature in the United States today: Hardly had the computers summed up the returns of voting, as it became clear that certain, deplorably, quite influential imperialist circles, which are hostile to the spirit and cause of detente, are disregarding the views of millions of Americans and are doing their utmost in an attempt to instigate the new administration to a course, whose core would be not a lessening, but a continuation and even a strengthening of the trends in the foreign policy of the United States that are dangerous to the cause of peace. An example of militaristic zeal is set by the outgoing administration itself. A fresh proof of it is the draft state budget of the country for the 1981-1982 fiscal year, which has been just submitted by J. Carter to the Congress. Under this draft, U.S. military spendings next year will for the first time ever top 200,000 million dollars.

It is apt to recall in this connection that while in 1977 the Pentagon's budget ran into 130,200 million dollars, in 1981 it will top 170,000 million dollars. This is the dangerous and grim militaristic legacy, which is bequeathed by the present rulers of the United States to the Republican administration; this is the real worth of the pledges of the outgoing President of the United States, who four years ago during his "White House race" vowed for everybody to hear that he would slash military spendings.

Washington's aggressive foreign policy course has received in recent years its so to say "theoretical substantiation". The point at issue is the notorious "Carter doctrine" proclaiming vast areas of the world, which lie at a distance of thousands of miles from the shores of the United States, to be a sphere of the "vital interests" of the USA, and is trying to justify the police raids into those areas by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. The point at issue is the so-called "new nuclear strategy" of the USA, which is aimed at strengthening the political and psychological prerequisites for lowering the threshold of the use of the nuclear weapons and curbing the arms race.

Washington is also trying under the pretext of the notorious "Atlantic solidarity" to cement by all means the "unity" of the USA with its NATO partners on an anti-Soviet basis and broaden the sphere of activity of this aggressive bloc. And now at the very last moment, Carter and his "team" continue billing in every way possible their hegemonic concepts, particularly zealous in this effort is presidential assistant Zbigniew Brzezinski, who dreams even of some global alliance between the NATO countries, Japan and China for the sake of a "strategic encirclement" of the Soviet Union!

In a word, there is every evidence that Carter and company have clearly set themselves the aim of shifting onto the shoulders of their successors the burden of all the worst things in their legacy, of what has been resolutely rejected by the American electorate.

STATE OF UNION MESSAGE CITED; MILITARY POLICY HIT

LD171402 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 17 Jan, TASS--The President of the United States has addressed to the Congress the traditional State of the Union message. Carter urges his successor in the office of the president to carry on the adventurist course for building up military preparations and increasing the military budget. It is indicative that among the "basic aims" of the foreign policy which America, in Carter's opinion, must set itself in the eighties, top priority is given to the build-up of the military might of the United States itself and its allies. The USA must pay any price that will be necessary to remain the world's strongest power, says the message.

The President pointed out that the USA is increasing all the three elements of its strategic nuclear forces. He indicated that the implementation of the programme for the production and deployment of cruise missiles and strategic Trident and MX systems is proceeding full speed ahead.

Carter lists among his administration's achievements the strengthening of the U.S. Armed Forces in Western Europe, broadening of the capability to airlift to that area big U.S. ground and airforce units as well as preliminary stockpiling of heavy weapons there.

The U.S. Airforce is to receive within the next five years 1,700 new fighter and attack aircraft, while the programme for the development of the navy provides for increasing the number of naval ships to reach 550 by the nineties. A Rapid Deployment Force has been formed and is being strengthened.

The United States is not only feverishly arming itself, but is also compelling its allies in the military blocs to act likewise. The message points out that the formation has been started of a basic political structure, which is to incorporate the NATO bloc and the military alliances of the USA with Japan, Australia and New Zealand. It follows from the message that this global alliance of the imperialist states will be spearheaded chiefly against the developing countries, which have strategically important natural resources, in the first place against the oil-rich Middle East and Persian Gulf countries.

CARTER ECONOMIC REPORT TO CONGRESS VIEWED

LD172228 Moscow TASS in English 1959 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 17 Jan, TASS--The United States is facing serious economic problems, primarily inflation and declining labour productivity. The admission came in President Carter's annual economic report to the Congress today.

The report put the average annual inflation rate in the United States at 10 per cent in the last few years. Many economic experts believe, however, that the true figure was considerably higher. The labour productivity growth rate has been declining in the last 10 years, with no increase in recent years. Moreover, in the period from 1978 to 1979, the productivity went down by 0.9 per cent.

The presidential report says that the U.S. state budget deficit is expected to amount to \$55 billion in the current 1980-1981 fiscal year. Before coming to power, Carter had promised to fully balance the state budget by the 1981 fiscal year. Now he says that the larger budget deficit is largely due to the constantly increasing military spendings of the United States.

A report of the presidential council of economic advisers, appended to the presidential report, gives a very pessimistic forecast for the future. It says that retail prices are expected to grow by 12.5 per cent and unemployment, which stands at 7.4 per cent now, to reach 8 per cent this year. Economists believe that the United States will have practically zero economic growth rate in the first half of this year.

The report admits openly that the United States is no longer dominating the world capitalist economy. The presidential advisers are trying to console themselves and the American nation with the fact that it is not only the United States but also other Western countries that are being faced with economic difficulties. The growth of inflation, they say, is a general trend in the capitalist countries, productivity growth rates have slowed down in all of them. Most Western countries have had increasing unemployment rates since the seventies and there are no signs that the trend may change for the better in the future, the report says.

CIA ENERGY FORECASTS: 'GALVANIZE' 'RED PERIL' MYTH

LD161357 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 11 Jan 81 p 3

[Article by Candidate of Economic Sciences B. Rachkov: "Trouble-Maker"]

[Text] THE ECONOMIST, the journal of British business circles, recently carried a letter from a Geneva reader. The author, addressing the editor, writes:

"Sir! Your assertion of 30 August, based on the American CIA's prediction that Soviet oil extraction will soon peak and then decline or, at most, stick at the present level, only adds to the long list of such predictions, each of which has turned out to be hopelessly inaccurate. Instead of falling, Soviet oil extraction is continuing to grow." After recalling the CIA prediction for 1977, which forecast the maximum possible oil extraction in West Siberia at a level of 250 million tons, the author then continues: "Nevertheless, 300 million tons of Siberian oil are now being extracted and there are plans to extract even more...."

Just as a matter of fact, the CIA began to make predictions about Soviet oil about 20 years earlier than the date mentioned in the retort. For the first prediction was made public in 1958 and by none other than "the father of American intelligence" himself, Allen Dulles. Moreover if that prediction had proven to be true, the West... would now be flooded with oil from the Soviet Union.

The fact is that at that time many Western states readily began to buy Soviet oil on a mutually advantageous and long-term basis. This circumstance disturbed not only the Anglo-American monopolists, who were trading in Arab and other purloined oil extremely profitably, but also reactionaries of every sort who did not wish to hear about the arrangement of any forms of cooperation between socialism and capitalism. It was just then too that the threat to the West from the "red oil" which the Kremlin allegedly intended to utilize to blackmail the Western countries and even to undermine the entire NATO block's defense capability was prophesied.

That time the Soviet Union extracted a little more than 100 million tons of oil and exported less than a tenth of that to the West, which was consuming more than 700 million tons of fuel oil [figures presumably relate to annual statistics]. It is perfectly obvious that a vision of the West drowning in Soviet oil could occur to only a fevered imagination. Nevertheless, at the beginning of the sixties NATO headquarters forbade Western countries to sell the Soviet Union oil pipelines precisely on the pretext of saving the West from the danger of dependency on deliveries of Soviet oil. The ignoble end to this stupid affair is remembered by many people: Only a few years afterward the sober-minded business circles and governments of the West European countries broke the notorious "NATO embargo" in the interests of mutually advantageous business links with the largest socialist country.

So why does the CIA now need to predict a crisis in the Soviet oil industry? The fact is that the Soviet Union initiated the arrangement of broad international economic and scientific and technical cooperation with the aim of the more successful resolution of energy problems. Many countries responded to this initiative. Progress would have been considerably more noticeable were it not for the opposition of the most reactionary imperialist forces, particularly in the United States. To the Soviet Union's readiness to share on an international level its experience of the crisis-free management of the economy, to cooperate on a mutually advantageous basis in the corresponding spheres of science and technology and in the development of oil and gas deposits in the harsh natural regions of the Northern Hemisphere, American imperialism counterposed a new embargo-- this time an embargo on exporting to the Soviet Union a whole range of various types of oil industry equipment.

It was as if it never occurred to the anti-Soviets on the other side of the ocean that the mighty oil and gas complex of West Siberia, now capable of producing more than 300 million tons of oil and more than 160 billion cubic meters of gas, arose in an incredibly short time precisely on the basis of home-produced, Soviet equipment, while the exploitation of Alaska's resources begun by the Americans almost simultaneously with that of West Siberia, has to its credit a yield so far of only 50 million tons of oil, and has practically no yield of gas.

To the prospect of equitable international cooperation in the solution of energy problems, including cooperation with oil-rich developing countries, American imperialism has counterposed a policy of continuing neocolonial exploitation of these countries and further plundering of their resources. During the period of the energy crisis the United States has increased its yearly import of oil from the young states by more than 100 million tons and made tens of billions of dollars profit after creating serious additional difficulties on the oil and currency markets for its economic and military bloc allies. For the majority of capitalist states the difficulties in the energy-supply sphere threaten to turn into a real catastrophe under conditions of the dangerous tension fueled by the Pentagon in the Persian Gulf region, which provides more than 50 percent of West Europe's and Japan's total requirements for liquid and other fuel.

Is the CIA not trying to distract the world public from these facts by its predictions of recent years? After all, the reference to the inevitable decline in the USSR's oil extraction in each of these predictions is made not only to console the adherents of the "private enterprise system" perplexed by the absence of an energy crisis in the socialist world. This allusion is particularly important for the CIA also because it is the only step toward another, even more far-reaching prophecy--about the allegedly inevitable devastation of the capitalist oil market by the Soviet Union and even about the USSR's impending entry into the struggle with the West for control of Near East oil.

All in all, the CIA prophets are now raving not about the "flooding" but the "drying up" of the Western oil markets through the fault of the Soviet Union. But the aim is the same: to galvanize the myth of the "red peril." This is necessary to American reaction both as a smokescreen for the Pentagon's intrigues in the Near East and as a kind of proof of the futurity of cooperation with the Soviet Union, and as yet another ideological mine under the further relaxation of international tension.

The draft "Main Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-1985 and the Period Through 1990" has left for the anti-Soviets not the slightest hope of a possible energy crisis in the Soviet Union. By the end of the 5-year plan the extraction of oil and gas condensate in our country will have risen to 620-645 million tons a year, that of natural gas by approximately 50 percent-- to 600-645 billion cubic metres, and on the whole the production of all energy sources will increase by 18-23 percent.

And lo--the transoceanic opponents of detente and mutually advantageous cooperation have turned up again. In the last few days, having consigned the previous CIA prediction to oblivion on account of its utter flimsiness, Washington has suddenly begun to issue strict warnings to the West European countries about the threat allegedly hanging over them... "of falling into dangerous dependence on energy deliveries from the USSR." Thus the anti-Soviets' arsenal is exhausted. The circle of their slander has closed on a lie of more than 20 years' standing.

FURTHER COMMENT, DPRK STATEMENT ON 'TEAM SPIRIT 81'

Budget Increase, Exercise Hit

SK180808 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Mikhaylov commentary]

[Summary] Two different news reports from South Korea focused on the maneuvers of the Seoul regime and its U.S. ringleaders, who are attempting to strain the situation on the Korean Peninsula and the surrounding region.

The first report says that the Legislative Assembly led by Chon Tu-hwan has allocated 4.5 billion dollars for the military in the 1981 national budget. This military expenditure is more than 30 percent higher than last year's.

Meetings continue to take place to increase South Korea's Armed Forces to 660,000 men, increase the purchase of U.S. weapons and increase the combat capability of South Korea's Armed Forces. For example, it is expected that South Korea's Army will be equipped with U.S.-made heavy tanks and air force (?F-3) and F-16 fighters.

In the near future, South Korean plants receiving licenses from the United States will begin producing F-5 fighters. Observers conclude that because the Seoul rulers have allocated a large portion of the budget for war preparations, spending in other sectors such as industrial supplies for civilian, agricultural and social demands will be reduced.

South Korea's economy, which is on a militarist track, will worsen with drastically increased prices of daily commodities and inflation. This will create further hardships for most of the South Korean masses.

According to other news reports from South Korea, a South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise--"Team Spirit 81"--which is unprecedented in its scale, will be staged in early February in South Korea. Some 170,000 troops will participate in this military exercise. It is also expected that many U.S. troops will be deployed on the Korean Peninsula, shipped from the United States and Pacific bases. U.S. troops stationed in Japan will participate, and U.S. military bases in Japan will be used as staging areas for paratroops participating in this military exercise.

MINJU CHOSON, one of the DPRK dailies, termed "Team Spirit 81" a dangerous provocative act.

Recent war preparations and provocative exercises staged by the United States and its allies nakedly expose their wicked nature by threatening the DPRK's efforts to maintain peace on the Korean Peninsula and to achieve the nation's peaceful reunification.

USSR Support Greeted

SK170622 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] The DPRK ambassador to the USSR, Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong, issued a statement on 16 January in [word indistinct] that the planned military exercise on the Korean Peninsula participated in by the United States and its South Korean puppets will further strain the situation in the area. Such provocative acts threaten peace and security. The Korean ambassador expressed deep gratitude for the USSR's continued support for the Korean people's just struggle to achieve the reunification of the fatherland on the basis of peace and democracy.

DPRK SCORES JAPANESE ARMS SALES TO KOREA

LD150905 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jan 81 p 3

[TASS report: "Hostile Act"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 10 Jan--The newspaper NODONG SINMUM assesses the supply of weapons by Japanese companies to the South Korean regime as an overtly hostile act toward the DPRK and a blatant challenge to the peoples advocating peace and the normalization of the situation in Asia.

The supply of arms to the Seoul puppets and the buildup of their military potential, the newspaper writes in connection with the export to South Korea from Japan of a large quantity of components and spare parts for military equipment, leads to the aggravation of the tension on the Korean Peninsula and creates new obstacles on the path of Korea's unification.

These actions attest that Japanese reaction still retains aggressive claims to Korea which have recently been becoming increasingly dangerous.

SOVIET-JAPANESE TRADE CONSULTATIONS SUMMARIZED

LD142304 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] The Soviet-Japanese intergovernmental consultations in Tokyo on questions of bilateral trade relations have ended. The sides examined the results of the fulfillment of the Japanese-Soviet agreement on trade turnover and payments for 1976-80, and discussed questions pertaining to the improvement of forms and methods of conducting trade operations. An exchange of opinions was also held on the conclusion of new agreements on trade turnover and payments between the Soviet Union and Japan.

SOVIET, MONGOLIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

LD152144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Gotob, the Mongolian ambassador to the USSR, held a reception today on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the Mongolian-Soviet treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid. Present at the reception were Comrades Solomentsev, Rusakov, other officials and representatives of the public.

U.S. TESTS 'MASS INFECTION' METHODS IN PAKISTAN

LD170348 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1300 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] American specialists passing themselves off as scientists from the Maryland University have started a program of dangerous bacteriological experiments in Pakistan. The official subject of their scientific experiments, conducted in the Lahore medical center, is the development of new methods of controlling malaria, yellow fever and other serious infectious diseases. However, there is reason to believe that their main task is entirely different: It is the study of the most effective methods of mass infection in case of bacteriological warfare. There are many indications to point to this fact. For instance, the Indian PRESS ASIA INTERNATIONAL News Agency reports that members of the Lahore center were seen spreading insects, vectors of infectious diseases, in Pakistan. These insects possess increased viability. They can easily withstand sharp changes in the temperature and spread (?plagues) throughout the areas they are introduced. The death rate of the diseases they cause comes to 90 percent. Even today, the Indian news agency points out, hospitals in Lahore and Rawalpindi received 30 patients in a state that was practically hopeless after they were bitten by the American insects.

The Kabul NEW TIMES writes that one of the viruses brought in by the American scientists under the code name of (Congo) became the reason for the death of the prominent Pakistani surgeon, Dr (Matten), and two nurses. The newspaper notes that the effects of the virus were tested on them and it is believed that this virus is now being produced for mass spreading. The Pakistani journal VIEWPOINT is expressing concern over the quantities of the drug produced by American specialists from the Lahore medical center. [words indistinct] when 11 out of 36 patients went out of their minds after taking the drug (antibe) recommended by the American doctors as an antimalaria drug.

Reports on this case caused widespread reaction in scientific and medical circles of Pakistan. A prominent Pakistani scientist, Professor (Logh), said in particular: The so-called civilized countries and first and foremost the United States, as is known, are widely utilizing the developing countries for testing their military technology and now they have begun to use their population to test the latest bacteriological weapons.

The Pakistani Public Health Ministry, which is investigating the activities of these so-called scientists from the United States, notes the weekly VIEWPOINT, has refused to publish its results. In this way it confirmed the correctness of the deductions that had been made that, using the excuse of controlling communicable diseases, the United States is actually conducting preparations on Pakistani territory for bacteriological warfare and it [words indistinct] naturally threatens the Pakistani people themselves. However, it is also quite apparent that these activities are principally aimed at neighboring India, Afghanistan and Iran.

Political analysts note that the aim of the current manipulations with bacteriological weapons will complicate relations between Pakistan and its neighbors, that it will create an unstable situation and cause mutual distrust and in such an atmosphere it will be possible to continue the old colonial policy of imperialism of divide and rule. Consequently with the help of threats and outright blackmail and brandishing especially barbarous weapons of mass annihilation of people in Asia the Washington strategists, as can be noted, hope to force the Asian people to submit to their dictate.

DELHI ENVOY SEES INDIAN OCEAN PRESENCE AS 'THREAT'

BK151617 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 11 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] New Delhi, 9 Jan--The rapidly growing Western military presence in the Indian Ocean was not only a threat to the littoral states but to the Soviet Union also Mr Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet ambassador, said here today.

Mr Vorontsov said certain Western powers are taking persistent actions for rapid militarization of the Indian Ocean to ensure a "permanent military presence" in the area.

Mr Vorontsov was addressing a public meeting on the theme "The Struggle for Making the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace; Soviet Perception."

Mr Vorontsov said that beginning from 1972 the United States had sent large operational naval units to the Indian Ocean many times. On each occasion, these units had stayed in the ocean for about two months. Mr Vorontsov added that with capture of Americans as hostages in Iran in November last 30 U.S. warships had been stationed permanently in the Indian Ocean along with two groups of strike aircraft carriers with nuclear weapons on board.

Along with the American attempts to set up a "Rapid Deployment Force" which would bring about floating armouries in the Indian Ocean, the presence of the British and the French, Federal Republic of Germany naval forces in the area has made the situation alarming, he said.

The Soviet ambassador referred to the five points made by President L.I. Brezhnev while on his recent trip to this country in converting the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

Earlier Professor Rasheedudin Khan, MP, said that the presence of the missiles in the Indian Ocean made the position of the littoral and hinterland states vulnerable. He said that certain Western powers were giving Indian Ocean a semblance of the north Atlantic Ocean.

BELOV CRITICIZES BBC COMMENTARY ON INDIAN FABRIC

BK161326 Moscow in Hindi to India 1130 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Vladimir Belov commentary]

[Text] A few days ago the BBC broadcast provocative anti-Indian commentary. It reported that the cotton fabric which Britain imports from India is highly inflammable and dangerous for Western consumers.

The BBC's commentary sparked off a wave of indignation in India. Traders considered it as an attempt to hurt Indian cloth trade in Western markets. It is said that this remark by the British propagandists could seriously hurt India's foreign trade, which provides a substantial part of the funds for India's socioeconomic development, particularly as cotton fabric is India's single largest export item.

It is obvious that this hostile broadcast is part of the economic war which has been waged by the United States and its Western allies against India for many years now. This war is not being waged only in the cloth market, but all means including false propaganda and direct economic pressures are being used to slow down India's socioeconomic progress.

It may be recalled here that during last year's India-U.S. trade talks the United States tried to persuade India to voluntarily reduce exports of finished products to the United States. Also, sometime ago the World Bank failed to provide India a \$250 million loan which it had previously promised because of some fabricated excuses.

It would appear that the BBC's false propaganda is aimed not only at defending the interests of British monopolist capitalists who view Indian national trade as a dangerous competitor, but that it clearly has a political aim as well. The broadcast clearly implies a desire to punish India for pursuing an independent and constructive foreign policy, characterized by its recognition of Kampuchea, its realistic stand on the so-called Afghan issue and opposition to imperialist military bases in the Indian Ocean. Otherwise, Britain would not have said that Indian cotton fabric is more dangerous than the Chinese cloth to which Britain and the other EEC countries opened their doors last year.

COMMENTARY VIEWS BRITISH DELEGATION'S DRA VISIT

GF171644 [Editorial Report] Tashkent International Service in Uzbek at 1700 GMT on 15 January 1981 carries a commentary, the title of which is indistinct, on the visit to Afghanistan made by a British parliamentary delegation headed by Ronald Brown following an invitation from the Afghan Association for Solidarity, Peace and Friendship. The radio adds that the head of the delegation, Ronald Brown, held a 3-hour press conference in Kabul to brief local and foreign journalists on the outcome of the delegation's visit. It quotes him as saying: "Although it was cold in Kabul, we were welcomed warmly and sincerely. The capital of Afghanistan now enjoys calm."

Noting that Brown stressed that what the delegation had observed in Afghanistan was completely contrary to press reports circulating in the West, the radio claimed that the members of the delegation said Western reports that Afghans are fleeing their homeland are unfounded.

Referring to the West's stand on the Persian Gulf, the radio said: "The convergence on the Gulf, the warmongering that goes on over this region and the establishment of war bases here are a requirement of U.S. interests. The preparations carried out in connection with the Gulf question are merely a pretext for hostile activities against Afghanistan, Iran and other countries in the region. The U.S. plays an important role in this hostile activity."

After noting that the imperialists' views could not tally with those of the Soviet Union, the radio said: The Soviet Union has put forward a program providing for stability and peace in the Gulf region. It quoted Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev as stating: "The countries in the Gulf should not establish ties with alliances. They should instead stand against military alliances."

The radio concluded with another remark from Leonid Brezhnev: "The policy of stability and peace is vital for the interests of the peoples of the Indian Ocean and Gulf Region."

HENG SAMRIN CITED ON KAMPUCHEA'S RECOVERY

LD161011 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Jan 81 p 3

[Interview with Heng Samrin, president of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation and president of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council: "The Sun of Rebirth Rises," conducted by Viktor Ogulchanskiy, APN and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA correspondent in Phnom Penh]

[Text] [Question] Comrade President, on 7 January exactly two years ago the people's patriotic forces of Kampuchea defeated the genocidal regime. What could you say in connection with this anniversary?

[Answer] The country was in a grave state when Kampuchea's Revolutionary Armed Forces liberated its population and territory. The henchmen of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and Khieu Samphan had destroyed everything they could: hospitals, schools, plants, roads, railroads, river ports, irrigation installations and grain stocks. The country was in the grip of famine. This was a disaster without precedent in Kampuchea's history.

The first priorities of the People's Revolutionary Council which shouldered the responsibility for the country's destiny were to defend it from the machinations of its external and internal enemies and to provide the population with food and essential goods.

The people's republic has passed through a critical stage in its development. Revolutionary power has consolidated itself and a state apparatus and local administrative organs, whose effectiveness is constantly increasing, have been created. The population trusts the revolutionary party and the government and gives them its support.

Despite the subversive actions of the Beijing expansionists, U.S. imperialism and reactionary forces supported by the Thai authorities the People's Revolutionary Council has managed to rally the nation and defend the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty. Things are back to normal and are improving by the day.

The republic continues to show constant concern for increasing its defense capability. We are ready to rebuff any aggressive acts by the Thai-supported reactionary forces.

[Question] The tyrannical regime razed the country's productive forces. Please tell us about progress in restoring the Kampuchean economy.

[Answer] Having shouldered the enormous responsibility of the destiny of the entire nation, the revolutionary power had to start practically from scratch. Our immediate aim was to boost industry, especially agriculture, since tackling the food problem was an urgent necessity.

In the last 2 years it has been in agriculture that we have achieved our greatest successes. Reservoirs have been reestablished and canals have been cleared and repaired. Some 27 large hydraulic systems have been recommissioned. The numbers of cattle, hogs and poultry are returning to previous levels.

The area of cultivated land has expanded considerably. More than 1.3 million hectares were sown to rice in 1980. The crop is now being harvested. We are getting a ton and a half of grain per hectare. The area sown to floating rice [plavayushchiy ris] is expanding. Last year it topped 100,000 hectares.

In addition to rice, other agricultural crops are being cultivated. The area sown to these crops exceeded 300,000 hectares: 83,345 hectares were sown to corn, cassava was planted over an area of 18,906 hectares and coffee and hevea accounted for 7,000 hectares apiece. Extensive areas were sown to green beans and other agricultural crops.

The revolutionary power is making great efforts to develop fishing. In various waters, especially in Lake Tonle Sap, catches are 30 percent up on 1979. Sea fishing has also improved considerably.

The country now meets all its salt requirements and good results have been achieved in the production of sugar from palm sap and sugarcane.

Great successes have been achieved in industry. Some 50 plants and factories have now been reestablished in Phnom Penh and the provinces.

Important transport routes connecting the capital with provincial centers are functioning again. Trains are once again running on the Phnom Penh-Battambang and Phnom Penh-Kompong Som lines.

The ports of Kompong Som and Phnom Penh are once again open to high-tonnage shipping. International airlines run regular flights to the capital's Pochentong Airport. An agreement on opening a regular air route between Phnom Penh and Moscow was recently signed.

[Question] What successes has the revolutionary power achieved in the sphere of health care, education and national culture?

[Answer] During the last 2 years many wrecked or abandoned medical establishments have been repaired, enlarged and reequipped. In Phnom Penh and the provinces there are now 5 major hospitals and 100 polyclinics and medical centers operating. Mobile medical detachments serve the population of Kampuchea's most remote areas.

A mere 69 doctors survived the genocide committed by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan regime. People's Kampuchea now has 2,000 medical workers who have completed retraining courses. A medical institute which reopened at the end of 1979 has 726 students. The first 17 graduate doctors and pharmacists have received their diplomas.

Particular attention is being devoted to reestablishing the national education system. Under the Maoist stooges' regime the country's academic base was completely destroyed. Thousands of schools and lycees were wrecked and turned into pigpens or prisons. Young students were doomed to annihilation.

Following the victory of the revolutionary liberation forces and the assertion of people's power thousands of schools were reestablished and opened their doors to pupils, of whom there are more than a million now. The lycees and higher educational institutions are functioning once more. We have sent a large number of young people to study in friendly countries.

But we still are experiencing considerable difficulties. There are not enough school buildings, equipment, textbooks and aids, exercise books, pencils and pens.

The government is devoting great attention to developing culture. Artistic troupes and a variety of creative collectives have been created in the country. They are doing everything possible to preserve and augment our spiritual assets and national customs and traditions.

[Question] What can you say, Comrade President, about the future of People's Kampuchea and about the main direction of its development?

[Answer] Our aim is to build a socialist society in the country. The People's Republic of Kampuchea is unswervingly following the path outlined by Marx and Lenin and pursuing a peace-loving foreign policy and has close ties with the socialist countries and progressive forces struggling for peace worldwide.

Of course, Kampuchea is encountering serious difficulties along this path. But I am firmly convinced that with the help of its friends the People's Republic of Kampuchea will be transformed into a developed country in the near future.

The positive changes which have taken place in Kampuchea in the 2 years of the people's revolutionary power are irreversible. Nobody will halt our progress.

KANIA SPEECH ON UNION ROLE, WORK WEEK REPORTED

LD162154 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] The first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party, Stanislaw Kania, made a concluding address to the conference of party secretaries of the country's leading factories meeting in Warsaw. The conference, Stanislaw Kania said, has singled out all facts indicative of the danger threatening the country's democratic socialist course. The aim of such action is to undermine Poland's good name, socialism, and the country's achievements, its stabilization.

The Polish United Workers Party is the vanguard force in socialist construction. This is a law in the building of socialism, and never in the world has it been built without a Marxist-Leninist party. Our party is part of the Polish people, and no one will ever be able to break it away from the people. The party's program, its policy, serves as a basis of these links. However, noting the complexity of the economic situation, Stanislaw Kania underlined the exceptional importance of mobilizing all forces to cope with the difficulties and lead the country out of the state of stagnation in which it has been for more than a year.

On the issue of free Saturdays Stanislaw Kania described it as a source of aggravation of the situation in the country. On the 10th, nearly two-thirds of the collectives reported at work. More than 40 percent of the miners who were not supposed to work on their day off turned up. We highly appreciate such responsible and civic position, Stanislaw Kania said. We appreciate the efforts of a larger part of the party organizations in this field. The credit also goes to both industrial trade unions wherever they acted and, which should be stressed, in many links of the Solidarity trade union.

Therefore, the entire Solidarity organization could not be blamed for calling to boycott work on Saturday the 10th. Many members of Solidarity and the industrial unions displayed responsibility and concern for the country. Stanislaw Kania further said: We cannot agree neither to regress, nor to stagnation in the development of the country. An excessive reduction of working hours leading to the decline of production may result in worse living standards. He questioned whether anybody in Poland consciously agreed with this, or was reconciled with the consequences of such a situation.

The first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party said: We continue to be in favor of comprehensive and constructive cooperation with the Solidarity trade union. However, we should not overlook the fact that Solidarity had been penetrated by outspoken enemies of socialism who by their behavior have confirmed that they pursue counterrevolutionary goals. Ideologically the deleterious publications have been issued on Solidarity's behalf and irresponsible antisocialist acts have taken place. Attempts have also been made to take over public organization premises and organize campaigns against our cadres. Stanislaw Kania continued that, while facilitating the development of all forms of socialist democracy, the party has underlined that there should be no diarchy in the country. There was room in Poland for broad development of democracy in parliament, local people's councils, and in all self-managing and public organizations. He emphasized that this policy was to be continued.

POLISH JOURNALIST ON NATO-INSPIRED 'SABOTAGE'

LD181926 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] We invite you to listen to a talk written by Polish journalist Ignacy Krasicki. [passage indistinct] (?the hostile element in the West) are doing everything in their power to push back the course of events in Poland.

We remember the sensational reports of some sections of the Western press on the strikes in Poland in the summer of last year. In those reports there was a clear trend to inflame the difficulties in Poland and a wish to deepen the crisis and support the enemies of socialism in Poland. When the communists and all the working people began the process of consolidation and stabilization of the situation in Poland, following the sixth and seventh party plenums under the leadership of the PZPR, the Western press reached for yet more provocations. This found expression in a (?claim) put forward by the White House and picked up by the capitalist press suggesting that allegedly Poland is threatened by danger from its allies. [passage indistinct] Thus NATO countries did not hesitate to use the least subtle intervention into the internal affairs of the sovereign member country of the United Nations. The propaganda campaign in the West helped by the Beijing press, [words indistinct] prove the two typical anti-Polish trends.

First, the political and propaganda centers of NATO are aiming at antagonizing Poland against its allies and at clawing it out of the Warsaw Pact. Second, [words indistinct] of the enemies of socialism in Poland, using to this aim in particular, for their own reactionary and antisocialist aims the (?independent) trade union Solidarity. [passage indistinct] such acts of sabotage are a clear infringement of international law and the Helsinki agreements. [passage indistinct]

One should view the activities of the antisocialist circles in Poland in this context. The point is, the counter revolutionary groups organize the sabotage plans which have been worked out by NATO. That is why the Polish Communist Party vigorously resists the antisocialist demagoguery of the Workers' Self-Defense Committee; that is why people's power gives a decisive rebuff to attempts by anarchists to occupy public buildings and other sites, and to the lawless (?distribution) of work-free days and so forth. (?this is typical) of so-called creeping counterrevolution, a stage by stage dismantling of (?socialism) in Poland. [Passage indistinct] However, the PZPR and the working masses will never agree to the process (?of economic reform) to be disturbed by the antisocialist sabotage activity inspired by NATO. [Passage indistinct]

The party is loudly saying no to attempts to introduce anarchy and chaos to public life, no to all who want to attack the socialist state and our international alliances and duties, the foundations of the existence of Poland as a state. We are saying no to the counterrevolutionary intentions and plans, writes Polish journalist Ignacy Krasicki.

WARSAW PEASANT COOPERATIVES CONGRESS REPORTED

LD172228 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Congress of delegates of the peasant mutual assistance cooperatives has concluded a congress in Warsaw. The cooperatives have a membership of nearly 6 million people. The congress adopted a program of activities for the cooperatives over the next few years. It also defined their role and objectives in dealing with the problems of agricultural development and improving services of the rural population. A Soviet delegation, headed by Smirnov, chairman of the board of Tsentrsoyuz, took part in the work of the congress.

RUSAKOV MEETS WRONSKI, POLISH DELEGATION

LD161644 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] At the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society, a delegation from the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society has been in the Soviet Union from 12-16 January led by Wronski, member of the PZPR Central Committee and member of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic, chairman of the main board of the society.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EASTERN EUROPE

Today the delegation was received by Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. A protocol was signed on cooperation between the societies for 1981.

We are full of resolve to comprehensively uphold and strengthen the great gains of the Polish and Soviet peoples, and our fraternal friendship, stated Wronski after the protocol signing. At this moment, when Poland is experiencing a difficult period, when the enemies of detente are attempting to split the cohesion of the countries of our community and to weaken the position of socialism, 65,000 new members have joined the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society. This is testimony to how the role of the public in the two countries is increasing in the strengthening of Polish-Soviet relations, which further the cause of peace and detente.

POLISH WAR VETERANS ISSUE APPEAL, BACK PZPR

LD180050 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1127 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Warsaw, 17 Jan (TASS)--The role and place of fighters for freedom and democracy in the present complex sociopolitical situation in People's Poland is the main theme of conferences and meetings of war veterans now taking place throughout the country. It is stressed at them that the war veterans fully support and approve of the policy of the new PZPR leadership.

The war veterans who took part in a session of the voivodship board of the Alliance of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy at Kielce addressed an appeal to the 640,000 war veterans, which says in part:

Today, when our state finds itself in a complex situation, the role of all patriotic forces standing for a socialist Poland is greatly enhanced. Among them is our alliance of veterans who devoted all their efforts to the homeland; all their labor as soldiers on the World War II fronts, in the resistance movement and in the period of consolidating the people's power.

The traditions of comradeship-in-arms with the Soviet people in the struggle against the common enemy of fascist Germany is very much alive in our memory. Let the veterans, by their discipline and selfless labor, show young people how to live and work in Poland. We appeal to veterans to step up their social activities and their work at the various levels of self-management. We appeal for a search for optimum solutions for day-to-day problems, for conscientious labor, for order and good sense. Let us all be guided by the slogan: "Socialist Transformations Yes, Anarchy No!"

POLISH POWER INDUSTRY, ENERGY MINISTER ARRIVES

LD191036 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Polish Power Industry and Atomic Energy Minister Zbigniew Bartosiewicz arrived in Moscow on Sunday for talks on cooperation in these fields in the first half of the 1980's. The two sides will discuss in particular construction work on what will be Poland's first atomic power station. The station will be built with Soviet assistance. Earlier, the USSR helped Poland build electric stations that account for about one-fifth of Poland's electricity output.

ZHIVKOVA, BULGARIAN DELEGATION CONTINUE VISIT

Departure From Kiev

AU161912 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] The delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria headed by Zhivkova, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Culture Committee of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, has completed its visit to the Ukraine.

The delegation has been in the USSR on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Today the delegation members laid flowers at the monument to Vladimir Ilich Lenin. A wreath was laid at the grave of the unknown soldier.

At the meeting in the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture, Minister Bezklubenko reported to the Bulgarian visitors on the development of socialist culture in the Ukraine, on the achievements attained by cultural figures and artists and the development of amateur arts among the working people.

Friendship between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, Zhivkova emphasized, constantly strengthens and develops. In particular, this has been well confirmed by fruitful exchanges in spiritual values. Both those exchanges and other spheres of Bulgarian-Soviet cooperation manifest close rapprochement between our peoples.

In the afternoon the visitors from the fraternal country saw the Kiev Pechersk State Historical and Cultural Preserve and inspected the expositions of the museum that is located there.

On behalf of the Ukrainian Government, a luncheon was given in honor of the Bulgarian delegation.

In the evening the delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria headed by Zhivkova, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Culture Committee of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, left for Moscow. At Kiev railroad station the delegation was seen off by Orlik, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; Buzklubenko, Ukrainian minister of culture; Menzheres, Kievskiy Gorispolkom deputy chairman; and other officials. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, and Chekharin, USSR deputy minister of culture, left for Moscow along with the delegation.

Visit Ends

LD171426 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] A delegation from the People's Republic of Bulgaria led by Zhivkova, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Committee for Culture, left Moscow for home today. The delegation visited the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport, the delegation was seen off by Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

HUNGARIAN MINISTER HORVATH MEETS ANDROPOV

LD172018 Budapest MTI in English 1726 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Budapest, 17 Jan (MTI)--Hungarian Minister of Home Affairs Istvan Horvath has paid an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union where he discussed timely questions with Y.V. Andropov, member of the CPSU Political Committee and chairman of the State Security Council, and with Army General N.A. Shchelokov, home minister of the Soviet Union.

CONGRESSIONAL GROUP'S VISIT TO GREECE REPORTED

LD162335 Moscow TASS in English 2054 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Athens, 16 Jan, TASS--A group of members of the U.S. House of Representatives have come here. The group is headed by Chairman of the House Armed Service Committee Melvin Price. It is officially reported that the visit is "fact-finding." But news analysts believe that the visit is a component part of the broad political campaign aimed at impelling Greece for more active participation in furthering plans of "strengthening the NATO's southeastern flank." These plans in reality conceal the Pentagon's intentions to build up in the area of eastern Mediterranean the NATO's military might which, "when required," could be used "in the direction of the Middle East." As a result of the ever-growing pressure from Washington and NATO, Greece has already returned to the NATO's military wing from which it withdrew in 1974. A Greek-American agreement is now on the order of the day. The aim of that agreement, according to the democratic press, is "to prolong the mandate for the presence of American military bases on Greek soil." According to statements of official representatives in Athens, the agreement is to be signed not later than in the next few weeks. The agreement will point to the status of American military bases, concrete obligations of the United States in development of the military industry in Greece and also resolve financial and other issues "within the framework of military cooperation." The public of Greece, on its part, demands that Greece should withdraw from NATO and that American military bases be dismantled, and considers that as "a reliable way" of improving the political situation in eastern Mediterranean and of strengthening peace and security in the region.

BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW

LD170958 Moscow TASS in English 0933 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan, TASS--A delegation from the Communist Party of Belgium stayed in Moscow from January 13 to 17 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation included member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belgium Ian Debrouver and member of the party Central Committee, Chairman of the Central Committee Foreign Political Commission Paul van Praga. The Belgian guests had a meeting at the CPSU Central Committee with the CPSU delegation composed of alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev and deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee International Department Vitaliy Shaposhnikov. The representatives of the CPSU and the CPB informed one another about the activity of their parties and exchanged views on topical international questions of mutual interest, they declared in favour of stepping up efforts to improve the international situation and energizing the struggle for peace and detente. The meeting was held in a comradely, businesslike atmosphere.

TIKHONOV RECEIVES AUSTRIAN TRADE MINISTER

LD170047 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Today Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin, Staribacher, Austrian minister of commerce, trade and industry, who is staying in Moscow in connection with the signing of a long-term program for the development and expansion of economic, scientific-technical and industrial cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Austria covering the period 1981-1990. Both sides expressed their conviction that the long-term program corresponding to the principles of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe lays the foundations for the further successful development of Soviet-Austrian cooperation in various fields during the coming decade. Satisfaction was expressed over the fact that relations between the Soviet Union and Austria, developing in accordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems correspond to the interests of the peoples of both countries and serve the cause of peace, detente and international rapprochement. The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

U.S., IRANIAN AGREEMENT ON HOSTAGES RELEASE NOTED

LD191012 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Algiers, 19 Jan, TASS--The United States and Iran have agreed on terms for the release of the 52 American hostages in Iran. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher signed an agreement to this effect in Algiers. The Iranian side has signed the document in Tehran earlier.

WASHINGTON POST CITED ON ARREST OF ALLEGED CIA SPY

LD162042 Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 16 Jan, TASS--The newspaper Washington POST reported that a certain Zia ol-Haq Naseri was arrested in Tehran as a spy and agent of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. His name could rather frequently be seen in the Western press about a year ago. What is Naseri? He is a U.S. citizen, an inveterate enemy of Democratic Afghanistan. By origin Naseri comes from a wealthy Afghan family. His father was one of secret-service directors under the royal regime in the fifties. Naseri studied and worked in the United States where he received U.S. citizenship, lately he acted in the line of detective police. After the April revolution he was sent to Peshawar (Pakistan) where he knocked together the organization the Afghan Islamic and Nationalist Revolutionary Council and the terrorist band "Nasr". Western correspondents intensively publicised him as a "fighter for freedom" and the bloody deeds of his band.

During one of his tours to Washington he was received by U.S. President's Assistant Maddock. In Egypt this hireling of imperialism met with President as-Sadat. The magazine DER SPIEGEL readily published his lengthy interview about aid with money and arms which is being given to the anti-Afghan hirelings by Egypt, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia. Then he moved to Tehran in order to supply arms across Iranian territory to the bands operating in Afghanistan under the cover of Islamic slogans. At the same time Naseri took up subversive activities against the present Iranian authorities as well. And his career ended at that. According to the Washington POST, the Iranian authorities noticed him. His connections with the CIA did not escape their attention. He was caught red-handed in Tehran's luxury Hilton Hotel.

As the Washington POST notes, this former Afghan with a U.S. passport was not in want of money. When in Egypt, Washington, and Saudi Arabia he always stayed at the best hotels, and in Peshawar he had a deluxe room of his own in Khyber Hotel. At present this CIA agent has had to change the luxury apartments to a cell in Tehran's Evin Prison.

The Washington POST obviously tries to whitewash the caught CIA agent, portraying him as a certain loner an adventurer acting at his own risk. The exposure of Naseri--whom the U.S. press described as leader of Afghan insurgents--as a CIA agent proved an unpleasant surprise to the White House. And the Washington POST has been used for an appropriate "manipulation" of the U.S. public opinion with a view to preparing it for another failure of a new affair of the cloak-and-dagger boys from the U.S. espionage agency.

IRAQI PRESIDENT RECEIVES UN MEDIATOR PALME

LD161424 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan, TASS--President Saddam Husayn has received representative of the U.N. secretary general, former Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who is mediating in the settlement of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict. In the course of the meeting, Baghdad radio said, Olof Palme informed the president of Iraq about the aims and results of his activity as a special envoy of the U.N. general secretary. Saddam Husayn declared that the Iraqi Government is ready to cooperate with Olof Palme for a political settlement of the conflict.

COMMENT ON EGYPTIAN INTEREST IN CHADIAN AFFAIR

As-Sadat, Habre Meeting

LD171534 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 17 Jan 81

["How New Tshombes Are Made"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan, TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Tyssovski writes:

The MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY issued a report saying that Egyptian President as-Sadat has received in Aswan "people's resistance leader" Chad's former Defense Minister Hissein Habre. The report does not disclose the character of the talks, which is unnecessary, for that matter. Official Cairo has more than once declared its support for this hapless figure, who with the assistance of the imperialist circles and the forces of African reaction pursued a line towards splitting Chad and turning it into an outpost of Western influence on the black continent. Thus, some people on the banks of the Nile are eager to make Habre some sort of a Chad's Tshombe, to turn that country into a new Congo.

The conspiracy against the legitimate government of Goukouni Oueddei has already assumed all features of an international imperialist adventure. Within whose framework As-Sadat's Egypt has been assigned a leading role, and Cairo expressed the wish to put on immediately the uniform of an African gendarme. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ali actually admitted speaking in an interview with the AL-AHRAM newspaper yesterday that Egypt's stand on the events in Chad is prompted by the West's "supreme strategic interests".

It also became clear from 'Ali's revelations what scenario has been prepared for subversive actions against Chad and Libya. Cairo intends to use the Egyptian-Sudanese joint defence treaty, within whose framework Egyptian territory is viewed by it as Sudan's "strategic defence depth", as the main instrument for the implementation of these sinister plans. Therefore, it is sufficient, as is believed in Egypt, to declare the rapprochement between Libya and Chad. According to the usually well informed Saudi newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, As-Sadat has also expressed readiness to allow to use Egypt's territory for the combat training of Habre's gangs and make efforts for rallying closely around it all of Chad's separatist groupings.

The course of actions by the Egyptian leadership towards Chad and Libya is a logical follow-up to As-Sadat's political course for serving the interests of the imperialist powers both in the Middle East area and in Africa. It is precisely for the implementation of these tasks that the Egyptian special corps, which has been fathered by the Pentagon and is equipped with modern U.S. weapons for warfare in conditions of "primitive theatres of combat operations", is designed. Characteristically, the preparations for interference in the internal affairs of Chad and Libya are being carried out under the accompaniment of a hysterical campaign about "Moscow's hand", which is allegedly responsible for the events in Chad. The Egyptian president has now grown into the best pupil of notorious Brzezinski as regards learning all sorts of geopolitical "concepts"; As-Sadat invented in one of his recent speeches also a Chad-Libyan "belt" on top of the numerous "influence belts", with which the Soviets had allegedly encircled him personally.

As far as Habre is concerned, he, his Egyptian patrons (?and the) latter's imperialist bosses would be well advised to remember the lessons of Congo and Tshombe's inflorious end.

Criticism of As-Sadat Policies

LD170856 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "The As-Sadat Regime, a Supporter of U.S. Imperialists"]

[Text] The Egyptian president joyously welcomed in Aswan members of the U.S. Congress delegation and held a lengthy meeting with them from which the American guests emerged with a great feeling of satisfaction and pleasure. One member said that they had agreed with As-Sadat on all questions discussed. AL-AHRAM, referring to the meeting, said there was complete agreement of views.

What questions did As-Sadat discuss with the U.S. congressmen and from what standpoint were they tackled?

I can say at once that all participants were inspired by an obvious stand, hostility to the Soviet Union. The American guests particularly appreciated this point. A member of the delegation told the press that the main focus of the talks with As-Sadat centered on how to challenge the Soviet danger. He did not, however, specify who the Soviet Union threatens and how it does so. This is not surprising because even the Americans, who are adept at propaganda fabrications, fail to offer any proof of the existence of a Soviet danger anywhere. But can As-Sadat himself do this, bearing in mind the fact that he must be very much aware of the tangible aspects of Soviet foreign policy toward the Arabs?

As-Sadat has long been at the helm in the Egyptian state. For example it was he who, in the early 1970's signed the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Egypt and the USSR. He said then that it was he himself who wanted the conclusion of that treaty.

I would also like to draw your attention to the full accord in the views of As-Sadat and members of Congress on the question of the establishment of American military bases in Egypt and of equipping the Egyptian forces with American weapons so that it can play the role of a gendarme in the region. During his Aswan meeting with the American delegation he reaffirmed his readiness to grant the United States military facilities; that is, military bases in Egyptian territory. In return, As-Sadat asked the United States for more sophisticated weapons. He was assured by the American guests that they would back his request in Congress. Naturally they take into account the fact that As-Sadat would never use the American weapons against Israel, with which he has concluded a so-called peace treaty.

We can infer from what went on between As-Sadat and the American congressmen that there was also complete agreement on other issues such as those relating to Middle East settlement and Palestine.

It is known that Cairo, which is associated with Washington and Tel Aviv under the Camp David agreements, tries together with its partners to impose capitulatory conditions on the Arabs, conditions which involve depriving the 4 million Palestinian people of their rights and perpetuating the occupation and annexation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights. In other words, in As-Sadat's view the permanent violation of the sacred national rights of the Arabs, the enemy's annexation of their land, the division of Lebanon and the physical liquidation of the Palestine resistance pose no dangers. The Egyptian president deliberately ignores these real dangers to the Arabs.

To give further satisfaction than hitherto to his Camp David American and Israeli partners, As-Sadat relentlessly exploits his vocal chords in painting a black picture in his attempt to spread a propaganda curtain and smokescreen, taking the form of the myth of Soviet danger. By means of this rather transparent curtain, he tries to somewhat cover the neocolonialist policy of the United States which is hostile to the Arabs in the Middle East, the Israeli enemy's ambitions of conquests and As-Sadat's active help for them in this.

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However, all these attempts are in vain, for the overwhelming majority of the Arabs firmly reject the fabrications about the illusory Soviet danger and rightly point out that the growing danger to the rights and national interests of the Arabs in fact came only from the imperialists of the United States and its collaborators. As the Jordanian AL-AKHBAR said a few days ago, Washington's consistent pro-Israeli policy in the Middle East proves that as far as the Arabs are concerned, U.S. actions involve the most dire and dangerous consequences. I may add: To such consequences leads the policy of As-Sadat, who is skillful in serving his American masters.

AL-AKHBAR Allegations

LD162002 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 16 Jan, TASS--TASS observer Igor Donskoy writes: The Egyptian newspaper AL-AKHBAR published another falsehood. It presents the intentions of Libya and Chad to unite as "Soviet designs directed not only against Chad but also against many other African states". But this is not enough for the newspaper. It also published falsehoods about specialists from the USSR and the GDR who, allegedly, commanded combat operations of Libyan units in Chad.

Those who are striving to complicate in every way the situation in Central Africa, to create the pretext for the increase of foreign military presence in the region, of imperialist interference in the internal affairs of Chad and other African states stop at nothing, and having no facts to fabricate crude allegations. The Soviet Union has no self-seeking aims with regard to African states or any other states. The Soviet Union is strongly against any foreign interference in the internal affairs of Chad or other countries.

In peacetime, the Soviet Union maintained normal diplomatic relations with Chad. A small group of Soviet doctors was sent there at the request of Chad's Government. No-body doubted the humane character of that assistance. After the beginning of military operations in Ndjamena, Soviet specialists and the entire diplomatic staff were recalled from Chad.

The whole world know that it is against the principles of the peaceful Soviet policy to proclaim any foreign territory as a zone of "vital interests" or to set up special interventionist forces of the sort of the "Rapid Deployment Corps" or "foreign legion" for operations abroad. This is something that is done by countries with a different regime and a different policy.

The Soviet state holds that all foreign affairs of Chad must be decided only the people and political forces of that country without outside interference. As to the relations between Chad and Libya, they are wholly and completely in the competence of those two states and no one should interfere in them, Paris, Washington, London, or Cairo.

The newspaper AL-AKHABAR alleges that the Soviet Union tries to force out France, the United States, Britain, Egypt and all states that have their interests in Central Africa. The As-Sadat regime in Egypt aspires to join the club of imperialist states claiming the spheres of influence. It wishes very much to be on an equal standing with those with whom it made friends. It is pleasant to be larger than life even if only in one's own eyes.

LIBYA ISSUES STATEMENT ON TROOPS IN CHAD

LD161622 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jan, TASS --Libya's Foreign Relations Bureau has issued a statement in connection with the decision by a number of Africa heads of state that has been taken towards Chad. In the statement it is noted that Libya's Foreign Relations Bureau is on the whole satisfied with the content of the document, except the item pertaining to the presence of Libyan troops on the territory of Chad and which points to the need of their pull-out from there.

In the document it is emphasized that that provision is unacceptable to Libya, because Libyan troops were sent to Chad at the request of Chad's legitimate government and its chairman Goukouni Oueddei, officially recognized by the Organization of African Unity, and on the basis of the treaty of friendship and alliance between Libya and Chad signed on June 15, 1980. In this connection, the document stresses, it is Chad's legitimate government only, with Goukouni Oueddei at the head, that can resolve the question of withdrawal of Libya's troops from Chad's territory. In the statement it is indicated that Libyan troops are in Chad to maintain peace and to ensure security in the country and their presence is not directed against any other countries.

ARAB WEEKLY INTERVIEWS USSR MIDEAST EXPERTS

LD190933 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 12-18 Jan 81 pp 28-31

[Interview granted by Aleksandr Krasnov, APN chief editor for Near East, Middle East and African affairs and Igor Belyayev, "specialist on Middle East affairs," to 'Abd al-Hadi Mahfuz and 'Ali Hamadah--date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] The Camp David accords have almost reached a dead end with Carter. What do you expect of the accords under the new administration?

Igor Belyayev: In your question regarding the fate of Camp David and specifically the agreements that were concluded at the U.S. President's summer residence in September 1978 you say that they have reached almost a dead end. It appears to me that such a statement is incorrect, to say the least. If we consider that Camp David, as the parties to it assert, is virtually a comprehensive Middle East settlement or the beginning of one, then it can be said that all the plans laid by these parties have failed completely because Carter, Begin and As-Sadat believed that they could make the Arab countries accede to Camp David. What did actually happen? In Baghdad, where the ninth Arab summit was held in response to Camp David most of the Arab countries stood against it; that is they rejected it. As for the 11th Arab summit, it has rejected Security Council Resolution 242 which, as is known, became the international legal basis for Camp David. Therefore, time is working against the authors of Camp David.

Indeed how can we talk about a Middle East settlement on the basis of the Camp David accords as long as these accords completely ignore the Middle East's major problem, namely the Palestinian problem which is the problem of all Arabs. And about what kind of settlement can we talk if the Camp David accords completely ignore the question of East Jerusalem. Was it a coincidence that only after Camp David did Begin's government, which is only paying lipservice to seeking "peace" with the Arabs, do everything it could to unilaterally annex East Jerusalem and declare it "an indivisible part of Jerusalem, the eternal capital of Israel." The conspiracy at Camp David gave the "go-ahead" to this blatant step. Who can regard this as anything but open aggression against the Arabs. If I am wrong about this, what has prompted Saudi Crown Prince Amir Fahd to declare a "jihad" for the sake of regaining East Jerusalem for the Arabs and particularly for the Palestinian Arabs? I do not see the question of East Jerusalem as an emotional question or, let us say, as a religious question of which the Soviet Union knows the various facets. I believe that the crux of the matter in this case is that Israel is continuing its blatant aggression against the Arabs. Although the guns were silent when the Knesset adopted the resolution to annex Jerusalem, they might rumble once again should the point be reached where the fate of the holy city would be determined; and the situation is heading toward such a point. History knows of not a single case in which peoples' regional or religious problems have been solved unilaterally. True, there have been such attempts and history knows of these but it is also well known that they failed and justice triumphed. I think that justice this time will not be on the side of the authors of Camp David but rather on the side of the Arab countries that have rejected the Camp David deal which has caused irreparable damage to their national interests.

Someone might contradict me by saying that Egypt is no longer in the Arab ranks and it is easier for Israel not to confront the Arabs. It is true that Egypt is no longer in the Arab ranks and its present stand is not designed to settle the Middle East problem but stems from a unilateral deal with Israel which I do not think will stand the test of time. Unilateral deals, like the usurpation of the lands of others for short periods of time, do not stand up to such a test and the evidence to support this is legend.

What do I expect from the Camp David accords under the new U.S. administration? I expect absolutely nothing. First because Camp Davis is dead; it did not solve nor could it solve a single important issue in the settlement problem. Is there a politician or a political observer that expects anything from the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations concerning the so-called "self-administrative government" for the Palestinian Arabs? I do not think a single serious jurist, politician, or political observer expects anything from these negotiations. Therefore, if we want to talk about the return of Sinai to Egypt I have heard more than one official Arab personality saying that the problem of Sinai is the easiest of all the problems that comprise the crux of the Middle East settlement. I believe this is right. In any case I am convinced of this.

Much has been said recently about the "Jordanian solution" for the Palestine problem and other problems of the Middle East settlement as if it were actually a possibility for the settlement of the problem. But even if this is accepted, this form will lead nowhere. How can the Arab countries continue with the new U.S. administration--even if in form only--what President Carter began on the basis of Camp David accords as long as these accords are denounced in Amman? They were not rejected but were denounced because they are contrary to Arab interests. I believe that toying with Camp David is similar to the process of putting together a political coffin and which so far has scored no success. [as published] Despite assurances by Sol Linowitz, the U.S. representative who supervised the Egyptian-Israeli talks, that U.S. President-elect Reagan will act within the framework of Camp David and that Kissinger will visit the Middle East in order to continue this work, all this will not bring back to life what long ago proved its nonviability.

[Question] How do the Soviets view Egypt's Arab and African role and will any of the Arab countries in the future align themselves with Egyptian policy?

Igor Belyayev: The Soviet Union has always deeply respected Egypt's role in the Arab world but only as long as this role remained Arab. I do not think that this role remained so after the so-called "peace initiative of President as-Sadat" which he took to Israeli occupied Jerusalem on 19 November 1977. I also do not think that all Egyptians consider Egypt's present policy to be an Arab policy. On the contrary, in view of the disregard for, and failure to solve the urgent national Arab problems related to the Middle East settlement, foremost of which is the Palestine problem, the bilateral agreement with Israel has become a form of accepting the aggressor's demands unconditionally.

If Egypt were the only Arab country it would then be free to settle its problems with Israel any way it likes. But even under this assumption consideration must be given to history and to reaction by future generations. It is known that the Israeli "6-day war" was a war, or more precisely an aggression, that was prepared in advance, without justifications, against the Arab countries: Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and others. Therefore, in this case the return of Sinai cannot be a "concession"--a price--for solving the other problems to the benefit of the aggressor. How can Camp David and all that is subsequent to it be understood otherwise? "Divorce" of the Arabs is not permissible. Their desire for unity and solidarity is an objective process; it is a process that ebbs and flows but it is continuing and gaining greater strength; in most cases, despite the resistance of some politicians and rulers. The readers will understand what and whom I mean.

Therefore, how can I explain Egypt's current policy which in practice proceeds from U.S. and Israeli interests and which is based on strange calls for struggle against "Soviet expansionism"? Where is this "Soviet expansion" in the Arab world? Has everything in the Middle East turned around and has Israel become the peacemaker while it is killing Lebanese and Arabs and suppressing political and civilian freedoms on the West Bank of Jordan? Moreover, has the Soviet Union, which strongly and firmly calls for a just settlement of the Middle East problem, particularly the unconditional recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights and their right to establish an independent Palestinian Arab state of their own, suddenly become an "aggressor" threatening the Arab Gulf countries among other things, as the imperialist and Israeli press is trying to claim? Recently in Cairo you could read and hear about the Soviet Union, and not Israel, being the "danger" to the Arabs. Can this be understood or believed? I do not think so. Also, I do not think that the majority of Egyptian politicians--and here I am not just referring to those who have openly declared their disapproval of As-Sadat's policy--believe so. I believe that the way the present situation in the Middle East is being handled is in the interest of the United States and Israel and is dictated by their own interests. Such interests never tallied with the Arab interests. Some of my Egyptian colleagues are trying in vain to prove the contrary. Moreover, the Soviet Union is still the only major power that stands on the side of a real just settlement in the Middle East, including the settlement of the Egyptian regional problem but not at the expense of the Palestinians or of detracting from their national rights.

Will anybody in future align themselves with the Egyptian policy among the Arab countries? Yes, but only if Egypt abandons Camp David and all that is attached to it.

[Question] Does not the intensive U.S. presence in the Arab Gulf arouse Soviet fears? What are its objectives?

Igor Belyayev: I can say frankly that I was surprised when I received the recent issue of AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI. The cartoonist who designed this issue's cover presented an extremely sensational view of the situation in the Gulf following President Brezhnev's five-point proposal. The "Misha" [Olympic teddy bear symbol] is shown at the "threshold" of the Arabian Peninsula to depict the "aggressive Soviet Union." I would like to know how? Is it because the Soviet Union, which is applying one of the five proposed points, is prepared to undertake a precise pledge not to establish military bases in the area and not to interfere in the domestic affairs of the littoral countries and so on? If such pledges are an evidence of "aggression" what would, in this case, the presence of U.S. naval armadas in the Gulf area be? This was, incidentally, ignored in the cover's cartoon. Why? This is despite the fact that this fleet, which includes about 60 U.S. warships, including 3 aircraft carriers, is stationed there. Does the editorial body of AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI see the strong U.S. fist there as a symbol of peace? I say that I absolutely do not believe it is so. Rather, it is necessary to say that what is happening is quite the opposite and that the U.S. military sword is hanging over the countries of the Gulf area. On whose head will it fall? Not on our head in any case. I am sure of this.

Who can be sure that the new U.S. administration will not repeat Carter's operation to "rescue" the U.S. hostages in Iran? Do you not remember that no long ago--in April 1980--the U.S. forces on board one of these aircraft that are now stationed there took part in backing up the Pentagon's abortive operation? Do not also forget that the purpose of the recent U.S.-Egyptian joint maneuvers in Egypt was to acclimatize U.S. units to the Middle East--units that form part of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force. It is even more than clear that this force is assigned the role of occupying the Arab oil sources, that is the oil installations in the Arab countries of the Gulf. [paragraph continues]

That will be in the event that "it proves necessary," as they say in Washington. But they also add here that it is the United States that will determine the necessity or otherwise to use the Rapid Deployment Force, it is not the Arab leaders who will, nor will these leaders be happy about such a possibility. In any case nobody will ask their opinion. The United States is determined to defend its "interests" in the Middle East which, as is known, are contrary to the Arab interests. Take for example the question of the Middle East settlement. In this case U.S. interests are totally identical to those of Israel. Where is the guarantee that something similar will not happen in the Gulf area?

[Question] Do you imagine that the cold war atmosphere stands a better chance in the future than the possibilities of detente between the two superpowers?

Igor Belyayen: I would like to say a few words about the question of future possibilities of cold war. It appears to me that the way the question is phrased does not take into consideration the fact that there is no alternative to international detente and that it naturally does not exist. What alternative to international detente do you suggest? Is it a new world war or a series of so-called "regional wars"? I believe that the times have changed radically, particularly because of the fact that the correlation of forces in today's world is no longer in favor of imperialism otherwise it would long ago have imposed its will on the peoples. This is what many people realize, especially in the Middle East. Despite the fact that there have been many presages of cold war in recent years, I believe that the future holds a relaxation thanks to the efforts of the world's peoples to defend the cause of peace and self-security. I am quite confident in this regard. If the new U.S. administration adopts a sound attitude toward these issues, that is if it works for solving rather than complicating them, then such an attitude will be welcomed by the Soviet Union and, of course, only on mutual basis.

SOMALIA'S U.S.-BACKED 'EXPANSIONISM' SCORED

LD180456 Moscow in Somali to East Africa 1530 GMT 17 Jan 81 EA

[From the "Africa as We See Its Program, presented by Georgiy Tanov]

[Text] The Republic of Djibouti has shown its interest in negotiations with Ethiopia on steps to further the peace of and check incursions into the Horn of Africa. This was disclosed in Addis Ababa by Ethiopian Foreign Minister Feleke Gedle-Giorgis after holding talks with Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon.

The countries of the Horn of Africa and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] have in recent months put out diplomatic feelers to end the tension in the Horn of Africa, writes our commentator Georgiy Tanov. Informed sources say that Ethiopia in particular put a lot of effort into restoring lasting political peace in the region. A clear indication of this is the series of talks Ethiopia is holding with her neighboring countries.

The Somali Democratic Republic is the only country in the Horn of Africa which is adding fuel to the burning crises in the Horn of Africa instead of cooling the tension. The countries of East Africa are worried by the expansionist policy which Somalia has chosen to follow and how the United States is using it to interfere in the internal affairs of Africa. To cite a few examples: The recent visit to Somalia of a U.S. Congressional delegation that toured and inspected the military bases and other facilities the United States obtained from Somalia; the Somali defense minister's visit to Egypt to obtain arms such as tanks for the Somali Armed Forces; the Somali Shifta bandits' renewed attacks on Kenyan territory; the former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's tour of the Middle East and Africa, including stopovers in Egypt and Somalia.

While in Israel he called for the increase of American forces in the region and the strengthening of the special U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. It is important, indeed essential, to point out that America is thinking of using its bases in Africa for its threatening forces.

President Carter and his ministers have on several occasions stated that the work of this Rapid Deployment Force will not be confined to the Gulf region. That is why the progressive powers in Africa are calling for a peaceful end to the crises in the Horn of Africa. The peace-loving progressive powers in Africa see that the crises in the Horn of Africa are a matter for all the countries of Africa which must be ended peacefully and quickly.

GROMYKO, LIBERIAN COUNTERPART EXCHANGE GREETINGS

LD101754 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 10 Jan 81

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and his Liberian counterpart Gabriel Matthews have exchanged messages of greetings in connection with the 26th anniversary since the two countries, the Soviet Union and Liberia, established diplomatic relations. The telegrams voiced the confidence that the friendly relations will continue to strengthen and develop to the benefit of the two countries and serve the cause of peace and progress.

INCREASED U.S. AID, PRESENCE IN EL SALVADOR HIT

Strike Taking Toll

PY162028 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Today is the 5th day of the Faramundo Marti National Liberation Front's general offensive. While intense clashes continue in several parts of the country, the general strike ordered by the Revolutionary Democratic Front yesterday continues to gain strength. The employees of the Education and Finance ministries as well as those of the judicial courts have decided to join the strike. The members of the municipality worker's union and workers of the state water and aqueduct company have also given their support to the strike that was started by the Revolutionary Democratic Front. A total of 50 companies have stopped work in the capital, of which some (730) are out of business.

The TASS correspondent reports from San Jose, Costa Rica that during daytime San Salvador appears to be a peaceful city. Very few people can be seen on the streets and the store employees are bored stiff due to the lack of customers. At night things change. Armored cars rush through the city; one can hear the screeching tires of military jeeps, the explosion of bombs or the rattle of machineguns. There are no more peddlers to be seen on the streets of the city; in the market there is a shortage of foodstuffs. In the afternoon one does not see the workers returning from work, since they are on strike and most of the factories are closed down. When night comes and the curfew starts, the silence is shattered by the explosion of bombs, the rattle of machineguns, the firing of automatic rifles.

The U.S. Government has announced its decision to resume military aid to the Christian Democratic military junta of El Salvador. This announcement is a mere formality since military aid was never stopped despite the alleged cancellation last December when four U.S. nuns were murdered. U.S. military aid in El Salvador includes the sending of advisers, a large number of helicopters equipped with guns, as well as other very valuable equipment.

The Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front has announced that units of the Honduran Army have crossed the border and are advancing toward the southern Chalatenango Department in El Salvador. At the same time, motorized units of the Guatemalan Army based in (Jupia) were [word indistinct].

U.S. intervention is not dismissed. According to information from Washington the Pentagon has contingencies for at least four means to directly intervene in El Salvador, including the landing of marines.

San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Arturo Rivera Damas, for his part, stated to PRELA that he is against any intervention of foreign forces in his country. During a telephone interview, the Salvadoran archbishop stated that: As Christians we wish to solve our own problems.

During an interview with foreign journalists, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo also said he was against intervention in El Salvador. We must point out that this is the third time in the past month that the Mexican president has voiced his opposition to intervention in El Salvador.

Reports from Mexico disclose that representatives of the main Mexican political parties have requested the government to break diplomatic relations with the Salvadoran junta. In Managua the Nicaraguan committee for solidarity with the peoples has started a campaign for economic and material assistance to the Salvadoran people.

In San Francisco the California church officials have requested the U.S. Government to completely suspend all aid to the Salvadoran junta without any delay. In Caracas the Venezuelan committee for international solidarity has protested against the U.S. and Venezuelan Government's aid to the Christian Democratic military junta of El Salvador.

U.S. Arms, Advisers Arrive

LD180438 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Jan 81

Leonid Levchenko Commentary

[Text] There have been daily reports from that country about fierce battles between forces of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and troops of the pro-American junta. Western news agencies are trying in all possible ways to downgrade the successes of the patriots. A tale has gained currency in Washington about some sort of interference by Nicaragua in the affairs of El Salvador on the side of the National Liberation Front. Claims of this kind, says the note of protest from the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to the American Government, have the aim to mislead the public both in the United States itself and in the rest of the world.

It is quite plain that the Salvadoran people have risen up to a resolute struggle against the regime of terror. The unity of revolutionary and democratic forces, which operate in conditions of bloody repressions and martial law imposed by the junta, is growing. In a bid to prevent victory by the patriotic forces, Washington is organizing a large-scale foreign intervention in El Salvador; using for the purpose troops from Guatemala and Honduras, with the reactionary regimes of which the United States has close military and economic ties.

The United States has hastened to expand the scale of its supplies of arms and military hardware to the Salvadoran junta. The invading forces of the Honduran and Guatemalan regimes are also equipped with American arms, which they use to put down the popular movement in El Salvador. More and more American advisers are arriving in El Salvador to join the hundreds of others already there and taking part in punitive operations against the patriots.

Following the U.S. President's decision to resume American arms supplies to the Salvadoran regime, the junta's defense minister, Col Guillermo Garcia, has ordered his troops they should not spare ammunition. The junta's soldiers are killing civilians, not sparing women and children. Trained by American instructors, the butchers resort to the so-called scorched earth tactics which the United States used in Vietnam. As it is trying to save the regime it props from an inevitable fall, Washington pursues far-reaching goals. According to the U.S. magazine NATION, a war in Central America would be a fine excuse for sending U.S. Marines and crushing once and for all revolutionary upheavals in that region. As it is preparing for a direct armed intervention in El Salvador, the United States would like at the same time to bring down the democratic system in Nicaragua and to help the dictatorial regimes in Guatemala and Honduras to make short work of the mounting opposition movements in those two countries. In other words, on the pretext of protecting its vital interests the United States would like once again to turn the area into a domain for its monopolies which have been exploiting the Central American peoples for decades.

AUCCTU SECRETARY VIKTOROV HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

LD180055 Moscow TASS in English 2122 GMT 15 Jan 81

["Social Programme of Soviet Trade Unions"--TASS headline]

[Excerpt] Moscow, 15 Jan, TASS--"The social development programme of Soviet society and the trade unions" made the topic of a press conference which was organized in Moscow today by the press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

The press conference with foreign reporters took place at one of Moscow's oldest textile factories Trekhgornaya Manufaktura which recently marked its 180th anniversary. The factory produces cotton cloths of all shades and colours, which are popular in many countries. Yet this time coaches with the participants of the press conference passed the factory shops and stopped outside a multistoreyed building, which has nothing to do with production. The reporters learnt about the designation of the new building during their talk with Aleksey Viktorov, secretary of the USSR trade-union Central Council.

"Today you will have an opportunity to see for yourselves the implementation of the social programme of Soviet trade unions," Aleksey Viktorov said.

"The Soviet trade unions, covering 128 million, are actively working for the improvement of the wellbeing of the Soviet people", Aleksey Viktorov said. "The growth of socialist production and its efficiency made it possible in the previous five-year period to increase the social expenditure by 329,000 million roubles. From the very first days of the current five-year period of 1981-1985 trade unions became actively involved in the implementation of the new programme aimed at the further improvement of the living standards of the working people".

"This programme", Aleksey Viktorov stressed, "concentrates on social planning directly in the work collectives. The five-year production plan of each enterprise envisages the improvement of the working and living conditions of workers and employees and provides for the construction of flats, pre-schooling institutions, rest centres and an improved system of public catering. The trade unions strictly supervised the implementation of these plans coordinated with the management."

Further Report

LD180036 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] A press conference was held today in Moscow at the Trekhgornaya Manufaktura cotton combine with Aleksey Vasilyevich Viktorov, AUCCTU secretary. Its subject was the program of social development for Soviet society and the trade unions. Our correspondent, Sergey Averchenko, reports:

One could say that the Trekhgornaya Manufaktura collective reflects in all its main features the social developments taking place in many labor collectives in the country. In the past 5-year period alone, a wonderful modern administrative and consumer services block has been built at the combine. Here, right on the combine's grounds, an outstanding polyclinic and sanatorium-prophylactorium has been set up. More than 400 people improved their housing conditions during the last 5-year period. For a number of years now, workers at the combine--and 70 percent of these are women--have been fully provided with kindergartens and nurseries. In the CPSU guidelines for the 26th party congress, it is noted that work alone is the main source for multiplying national riches, and this means improving living conditions for each of us. Aleksey Vasilyevich Viktorov AUCCTU secretary, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy and hero of socialist labor, spoke precisely about the tasks set by the trade unions today for the successful implementation of the program of social development for Soviet society.

[Begin Viktorov recording] The income from social welfare funds constitutes a weighty supplement to a family's budget. A family of four receives payments and benefits from these funds amounting to more than R1,750 per year. As a result of these funds, the material living conditions of participants in the Great Patriotic War have been improved. About one third of the total sum of public consumption funds was directed at the education and maintenance of the growing generation and the extension and building of children's preschool establishments. In the 11th 5-year period, it is planned to build more children's preschool establishments with no fewer than 2.5 million places.

In the new 5-year period, it is planned to increase state aid to families having children and to newlyweds, and to extend privileges and benefits for these families. Starting in 1981, partially-paid leave will be introduced for working women to enable them to look after children up to the age of 1 year. The introduction of free textbooks for school-children will also be completed. [end recording]

GEORGIAN SUPREME COURT DISCUSSES RAILROAD THEFTS

LD161001 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 9 Jan 81 p 3

[GRUZINFORM report: "Georgian SSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] A Georgian SSR Supreme Court plenum has been held. It analyzed the state of court practice in cases of misappropriation of national economic freight in rail transportation. A report on this was delivered by Dr. Makharadze, member of the republic supreme court.

While noting positive aspects in the investigation of cases in this category, the members of the plenum drew attention, however, to the fact that certain courts make mistakes in the juridical qualification of a crime and do not always fulfill the law's requirements on the use of additional measures to punish a criminal, particularly in the sphere of confiscating personal property.

The prophylactic and preventive work of many courts does not accord with USSR and Georgian SSR Supreme Court resolutions. A full investigation is not always carried out into the causes and conditions which resulted in this crime. Officials with whose connivance cases of misappropriation have occurred in rail transportation frequently go unpunished.

Courts do not practice the holding of assizes with the participation of a public prosecutor or defender as a more effective form of work.

The plenum also heard a report by R. Khmaladze, member of the Georgian SSR Supreme Court, on the fulfillment by the republic's courts of the USSR Supreme Court plenum resolution "On the Practice of the Courts' Application of Legislation on Compensation for Material Harm Caused by a Crime."

Study and generalization of court practice shows that, by and large, courts correctly apply legislation on this. In recent years they have somewhat stepped up work on compensation for harm caused by crimes. However, serious shortcomings are also observed in a number of instances.

The plenum also heard reports by the chairmen of the people's courts of Khakhurakiy, Zestafonskiy and Zugdidskiy rayons--O. Mugalashvili, V. Samkharadze and Sh. Sariya--on these courts' fulfillment of corresponding resolutions of USSR and republic supreme court plenums.

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
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Participating in the discussion of questions were A. Karanadze, chairman of the Georgian SSR Supreme Court; republic prosecutor A. Barabadze; A. Shushanashvili, Georgian SSR minister of justice; members of the supreme court and executives of the republic prosecutor's office.

Corresponding resolutions were adopted on the questions under consideration.

The Georgian SSR Supreme Court plenum considered appeals by the deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, the chairman of the republic supreme court and the Georgian SSR prosecutor in civil and criminal case.

GRISHIN, KIRILENKO ATTEND MOSCOW PARTY CONFERENCE

LD162243 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The conference of the Moskovskaya Oblast party organization ended today. In the Presidium were Comrades Grishin, Kirilenko, Solomentsev, Kapitonov and Zimyanin. Also present were party, administrative and economic figures, leaders in socialist competition, scientists, cultural workers and veterans of labor. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1730 GMT on 16 January reports that at the conference, "Comrade Konotop has been reelected to the post of first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom."]

ROMANOV REELECTED LENINGRAD OBLAST PARTY CHIEF

LD180503 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The 25th report-back election conference of the Leningrad Oblast CPSU organization ended today.

The plenum of a newly elected oblast committee of the CPSU elected Comrade Romanov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee, as the first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast party committee.

SHCHERBITSKI. ATTENDS KIEV PARTY CONFERENCE

AU191348 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1805 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Summary] A city party conference was held in Kiev on 16-17 January. "Participating in its proceedings were Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Vatchenko, Vashchenko, Gerasimov, Lyashko, Mozgovoy, Sokolov, Sologub, Titarenko, Fedorchuk, Kapto, Kolomiyets and Pogrebnyak. The delegates discussed in detail and in a businesslike manner a report by Yelchenko, Kievskiy Gorkom first secretary, a report by the auditing commission of the Kiev city party organization, and a report by Zgurskiy Kievskiy Gorispolkom chairman, on the CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th party congress, 'The Main Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-85 and Through 1990.'"

"Comrade Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party first secretary, warmly received by the audience, addressed the conference.

"In the resolution adopted, the delegates assured the CPSU Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and personally Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, that communists and all working people of the hero city of Kiev would even more closely rally their ranks around the Leninist Central Committee and with new labor successes mark the 26th CPSU Congress.

"The conference unanimously endorsed the CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th party congress.

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"The delegates elected a new composition of the gorkom and the auditing commission of the city party organization, as well as delegates to the 26th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party congresses.

"With great enthusiasm letters were addressed to the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Brezhnev and the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

"Participating in the conference proceedings were Ryzhkov, USSR Gosplan first deputy chairman; Blokhin, president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; and Colonel General Sredin, first deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy.

"At its organizational plenum the gorkom elected Comrade Yelchenko as gorkom first secretary."

RASHIDOV, DMITRIYEV ADDRESS TASHKENT CONFERENCE

LD172353 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] In a number of oblasts in the country report-back election party conferences ended today. At the Tashkent Oblast conference, major attention was concentrated upon a fuller use of reserves for the successful operation of all links in the national economy in the new 5-year plan. Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee; and Comrade Dmitryev, department chief of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the conference.

SONGAYLA APPOINTED NEW LITHUANIAN PREMIER

LD161648 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Vilnius--The Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed as chairman of the Council of Ministers for the Lithuanian SSR Songayla, who has been working as secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee. Manyushis has been released from the duties of chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic in connection with his retirement.

ALIYEV ATTENDS BAKU CONFERENCE; OFFICIALS ELECTED

LD161615 [Editorial Report] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 7 January 1981 front-pages, under the headline "Militant Tasks of Communists of Azerbaijan's Capital," a 700-word unattributed report on the proceedings of the first day of the "44th Baku city party conference, which opened 6 January in the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Club." "G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee," is reported as being "in the Presidium" at the conference, which discussed "tasks in further stepping up the city party organization's activity and increasing its role in communist building" and "was opened by Baku Gorkom First Secretary V.A. Guseynov."

The paper for 8 January front-pages, under the headline "Baku Party Conference Ends," a 400-word unattributed report on the proceedings of the conference on 7 January, its final day. The report notes: "At the conference G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee, who was warmly greeted by the meeting participants, delivered a long speech devoted to the Baku party organization's tasks."

The 8 January edition also front-pages an unattributed report on the "plenum of the Baku Gorkom elected by the 44th Baku party conference" held 7 January.

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"The plenum elected V.A. Guseynov Baku Gorkom first secretary. L.A. Sokolov was elected second secretary, and T.D. Akhundov and A.V. Abbasov were elected secretaries," the report notes. "G.A. Aliyev" is listed among the officials "taking part in the plenum."

USTIYAN APPOINTED MOLDAVIAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

LD302308 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Dec 80

[Text] Forty-one year old Ivan Ustiyen has been appointed prime minister of Moldavia, a republic in the southwest of the Soviet Union. He replaces Semen Grossu who has been elected leader of the Moldavian Communist Party organization. Ivan Ustiyen was born into a farming family, graduated from an agricultural college and has an academic degree in economics. Before he was appointed prime minister he was at the head of Moldavia's Planning Committee and a deputy Moldavian prime minister.

OBLAST PARTY CONFERENCES END IN KAZAKHSTAN

AU161735 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Oblast party conferences, held in a strict and businesslike atmosphere and amid the high activity of communists, have been completed in the republic. With new vigor, they manifested unity between the party and people and the close cohesion of the working people around the Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo with Comrade Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, at the head. The conference delegates unanimously endorsed and warmly supported the wise domestic and foreign policy pursued by the party and marked new targets for further developing the economy and culture, improving the prosperity of the Soviet people and worthily welcoming the forthcoming 26th CPSU Congress.

On 15 January, the Alma-Atinskaya Oblast party conference ended its proceedings. Its delegates noted that, in the period under review, the oblast's party organization had performed great organizational and political work to mobilize communists and all working people for further economic and cultural development and for implementation of the party's social program. At the same time they paid particular attention to eliminating occurring shortcomings and stated that economic leadership has still not fully utilized the reserves available or used the possibilities to increase the volume of production, sharply raise labor productivity and improve production quality. A great deal must also be done in capital and housing construction, in trade and cultural services for the population, in further promoting the working people's prosperity and in ideological and political educational work.

Warmly received by the delegates, Comrade Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, addressed the conference. His speech was listened to with great attention and was repeatedly interrupted with applause.

A report on the CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th CPSU Congress, "The Main Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-85 and Through 1990," was delivered by oblispolkom Chairman Doroshev.

The conference elected the new members of the obkom and the auditing commission, and delegates to the 26th CPSU and the 15th Kazakh Communist Party congresses.

At its organizational plenum, the obkom elected Aukhadiyev as obkom first secretary.

Oblast party conferences also ended their proceedings today in Arkalyk, Kustanay, Pavlodar and Taldy-Kurgan.

The delegates discussed in a businesslike way the activity of party organizations in implementing the decisions of the 25th party congress and of the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and Comrade Brezhnev's instructions and recommendations. They concentrated their attention on questions concerning party leadership in the economy and culture, ideological and political educational work and internal party life. While noting achievements, the delegates also revealed shortcomings and indicated ways to eliminate them and to successfully fulfill the 11th 5-year tasks.

The conferences discussed the CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th party congress, "The Main Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-85 and Up to 1990." Reports on that issue were delivered by oblispolkom chairmen: Zaritskiy for Turgayskiy, Kuspayev for Kostanayskiy, (Kairbayev) for Pavlodarskiy and Turganskiy for Taldy-Kurganskiy. The remarks and proposals voiced by the communists were aimed at further developing the economy and at improving the Soviet people's prosperity.

The oblast party conferences were addressed by Imashev, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau member and Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, in Arkalyn; Ashimov, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau member and Kazakh Council of Ministers chairman, in Kustanay; Nazarbayev, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee secretary, in Pavlodar; and Bashmakov, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Secretary, in Taldy-Kurgan.

With great enthusiasm the conferences adopted messages of greetings to the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

The decisions of the oblast party conferences are aimed at further improving the style and methods of party work, increasing the efficiency of party organizations, prefulfilling the 11th 5-year tasks and honoring the 26th CPSU Congress.

New members of obkoms and auditing commissions, as well as delegates to the 26th CPSU and 15th Kazakh Communist Party congresses were elected.

At their organizational plenums the obkoms elected the following obkom first secretaries: Auyelbekov for Turgayskiy, Borodin for Kustanayskiy, Isayev for Pavlodarskiy and Kuseinov for Taldy-Kurganskiy.

REPUBLIC PAPERS REPORT ON OBKOM ELECTIONS

LD161611 [Editorial Report] Recent editions of Russian-language republican newspapers have continued to carry reports on oblast party conferences and subsequent obkom elections as follows:

Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA 3 January publishes on page 2 a 3,500-word report by special correspondents N. Kiselev and A. Malevanyy under the headline "A Businesslike, Principled Approach," on the 19th Oshskaya Oblast party conference, at which the report was delivered by T. Kh. Koshoyev, first secretary of the obkom. The report states: "At an organizational obkom plenum which was held T. Kh. Koshoyev was elected first secretary of the Oshskiy Obkom, V.A. Makarenko was elected second secretary, and B. Ryspayev, Ye. A. Donchenko and V.K. Kandakov were elected secretaries."

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA 7 January publishes on page 2 a 2,000-word undated report by special correspondents V. Altunin and V. Magay under the headline "With a High Measure of Exactness: From the Ninth Syrdarinskaya Oblast Party Conference" which states in conclusion:

"An organizational plenum of the obkom was held. V.A. Khaydurov was elected first secretary of the obkom; N.Z. Zakirov was elected second secretary; and M.O. Umbetov, I.S. Umarov and A.A. Azimbekov were elected secretaries."

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA 8 January publishes on page 2 under the headline "Reserves—Into Operation; From the 14th Namanganskaya Oblast Party Conference" a 2,000-word report by special correspondents V. Vorokhov and I. Olevskobykhovskiy on the 14th Namanganskaya Oblast Party Conference. The report says that "at an organizational plenum of the Namanganskiy Obkom M.K. Kamalov was elected first secretary; A.G. Rudenko was elected second secretary; and T.R. Ruzibayev, A.Kh. Khasanov and Kh.M. Maksudkhanov were elected secretaries."

The same paper publishes on page 2 under the headline "Horizons of Creation; From the Fourth Dzhizakskaya Oblast Party Conference" a 2,000-word report by special correspondents V. Berezovskiy and K. Yakovleva on the Fourth Dzhizakskaya Oblast Party Conference. The report says that "an organizational plenum of the oblast party committee took place. T.B. Baymirov was elected obkom first secretary; Ye.A. Klemenov was elected second secretary; and S.A. Nishanov, P.I. Ismailov and U.Z. Klimov were elected secretaries."

Minsk SOVYESKAYA BELORUSSIYA 8 January front-pages under the general headline "On the Frontiers of Creation; From the Oblast Report and Election Party Conferences" a 200-word BELTA report datelined Vitebsk, 7 January on the Vitebskaya Oblast party conference. The report states in conclusion: "A Vitebskiy Belorussian CP Obkom organizational plenum was held. S.M. Shabashov was elected obkom first secretary; Ye.I. Radetskiy was elected second secretary; and N.N. Tutnikov, I.A. Naumchik and V.S. Rusak were elected secretaries."

Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA 9 January publishes on page 2 under the headline "From Analysis--To Action; From the Leninabadskaya Oblast Party Conference" a 2,400-word un-attributed report on a 5-6 January Leninabadskaya Oblast party conference. The report states in conclusion: "At an organizational plenum R. Khodzhiyev was elected Leninabadskiy Obkom first secretary; A.T. Yakunin was elected second secretary; and M.A. Pochchayev, S.Sh. Ashurov and B. Babayev were elected secretaries."

Riga SOVYESKAYA LATVIYA 10 January front-pages a 600-word LATINFORM report under the headline "Riga City Party Conference" on a 9 January Riga party conference. The report notes: "On the same day the first plenum of the Riga Latvian CP Gorkom elected at the party conference took place.

"Ya.Ya. Vagris was elected Gorkom first secretary; A. Ye. Kartsev was elected second secretary; and N.V. Denisenko and A.K. Plaude were elected secretaries."

Minsk SOVYESKAYA BELORUSSIYA 10 January front-pages a BELTA report entitled "Milestones of Creation" on the closure of the Minskaya Oblast party conference on 9 January. The report notes that "A Minskiy Belorussian CP Obkom organizational plenum was held. V.A. Mikulich was elected obkom first secretary; A.M. Fomich was elected second secretary; and A.I. Zhilskiy, M.A. Knyazyuk and S.S. Ling were elected secretaries."

Further Election Reports

LD161559 [Editorial Report] Moscow papers are continuing to feature reports on the oblast party conference and attendant obkom plenums being held in the period before the 26th CPSU Congress.

SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA for 10 January 1981 carries on page 2, under the headline "In Words and Deeds," a 1,200-word report by correspondent N. Kernoga on a Gomelskaya Oblast party conference, held on an unspecified date. The report notes: "The conference elected the new obkom and the delegates to the 29th Belorussian CP Congress and 26th CPSU Congress. At an organizational plenum Yu. M. Khusainov was elected first secretary of Gomelskiy Belorussian CP Obkom."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA for 11 January features on page 2, under the headline "Toward New Heights," a 1,200-word report by special correspondents G. Alekseyev and V. Ivanov on the Chelyabinskaya Oblast party conference, at which first secretary M.G. Voropayev delivered the report. The correspondents do not give the date of the conference, but note that "B.I. Gostev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Planning and Financial Organs Department, took part in the conference" and that "M.G. Voropayev was elected Chelyabinskiy Obkom first secretary."

IZVESTIYA for 13 January carries on page 2 of its Morning Edition, under the headline "Not by Numbers But by Ability," a 1,500-word correspondent V. Kozlov report on the Yaroslavl'skaya Oblast party conference, held on an unspecified date. Kozlov states that "an organizational plenum reelected F.I. Loshchenkov Yaroslavl'skiy Obkom first secretary."

SELSKAYA ZHIZN for 13 January carries on page 2, under the headline "Measure of Responsibility," a 1,500-word N. Demikhovskiy report on the Poltav'skaya Oblast party conference, at which the main speaker was obkom First Secretary F.T. Morgun. The date of the conference is not stated. The report notes that "an organizational plenum elected F.T. Morgun, first secretary of Poltav'skiy Ukrainian CP Obkom."

SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA for 13 January publishes on page 2, under the headline "Word from the Rostrum," a 1,400-word report by special correspondents V. Zotov and N. Klimov on the Voronezh'skaya Oblast party conference, held on an unspecified date. The correspondents conclude:

"K.S. Simonov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Transportation and Communications Department, addressed the conference.

"A new obkom and the delegates to the 26th CPSU Congress were elected. V.N. Ignatov was elected first secretary of Voronezh'skiy Obkom at an organizational plenum."

Page 2 of SOVETSKAYA KULTURA for 13 January features two 1,000-word reports on oblast party conferences, neither of which provides conference dates. Special correspondent V.I. Novikov's report on the Kharkov'skaya Oblast conference, carried under the headline "Time of Great Concerns," states in conclusion:

"The conference participants elected a new obkom and auditing commission and the delegates to the 26th CPSU Congress and 25th Ukrainian CP Congress. At an organizational plenum V.P. Mysnichenko was elected first secretary of the Kharkov'skiy Ukrainian CP Obkom."

The second report, by special correspondents L. Parfenov and V. Smirnov, is carried under the headline "Second Virgin Land of the Non-Chernozem" and provides an account of the Kalininskaya Oblast party conference, which "elected a new Kalininskiy CPSU Obkom. At an obkom organizational plenum P.A. Leonov was elected first secretary."

PRESS REPORTS REPUBLIC MINISTERIAL CHANGES

LD161557 [Editorial Report] Recent editions of Russian-language republican newspapers have reported the following replacements and appointments of republican ministers:

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 6 January carries on page 4 an unattributed "chronicle" report recording that "by a Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree dated 5 January 1981 Comrade Viktor Danilovich Izotov has been relieved of his duties as Turkmen SSR minister of the cotton cleaning industry."

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Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA 8 January publishes on page 3 two Belorussian SSR Supreme Presidium decrees, both dated 7 January 1981, announcing the formation of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming and the appointment of Nikolay Stefanovich Yakushev as Belorussian SSR minister of fruit and vegetable farming.

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA 9 January front-pages a Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree datelined Kishinev, 8 January, announcing the appointment of Nikolay Ivanovich Uzun as Moldavian SSR minister of construction.

The same paper publishes on page 3 an unattributed report which states that "the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Vladimir Vasilyevich Zbarazskiy from his duties as Moldavian SSR minister of construction in connection with his reassignment."

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA 10 January front-pages a Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree, appointing "Comrade Vladimir Trofimovich Gogoladze to the post of Georgian SSR minister of construction."

The same paper publishes on page 3 an unattributed report announcing that "by decree of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade N.A. Medzmariashvili has been relieved of his duties as Georgian SSR Minister of construction in connection with his reassignment."

NEW UKRAINIAN AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY SET UP

AU130945 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has set up the Ukrainian Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming. Viktor Afanasyevich (Nikitin) has been appointed minister.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM HONORS V.S. MAKARENKO

LD072110 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Today we were notified of a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the award of the Order of the October Revolution to Viktor Sergeyevich Makarenko, first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Krymskiy Obkom, to mark his services to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and on the occasion of his 50th birthday.

DIFFICULTIES IN TYUMEN OILFIELDS DISCUSSED

LD190755 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jan 81 p 1

[APN correspondent Stanislav Maltsev interview with I. Nesterov, director of a West Siberian oil institute, under the rubric "My Country Is Wide": "Tyumen Oil"]

[Text] More than 300 million tons of oil (including gas condensate) were extracted in West Siberia in 1980--more than half of the total yield of this form of fuel in the USSR. Only 15 years were necessary for this territory to become the country's largest oil-extracting region.

The first billion tons of West Siberian oil extracted since the beginning of the oil-fields' exploitation was reached back in April 1978, and now the yield is approaching 2 billion tons.

"Surely such a large volume of extraction in this region will lead to the depletion of the oil reserves?" was the question posed by APN correspondent Stanislav Maltsev to I. Nesterov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and director of the West Siberian scientific research institute of geological prospecting for petroleum.

No, it will not lead to that, I. Nesterov said. There are oil reserves here but the features of their geological occurrence make prospecting and extraction increasingly difficult and expensive. Let us turn to the facts. Approximately 200 deposits of hydro-carbonaceous fuel have currently been opened up in Tyumenskaya Oblast and half of them are oil. But only 35--the most economically profitable--are being worked. The remainder are meanwhile in reserve. It is precisely these deposits that enable more than 300 million tons of oil a year to be extracted in Tyumen, while the total quantity of opened deposits provides a firm assurance that the Tyumen reserves will survive for many years more.

I am convinced that the main oil discoveries in West Siberia will be made in the future. What is the basis of my conviction?

First. The oil-bearing territory in Tyumen is huge--more than 1 million square kilometers, approximately the area of Spain, Italy and Britain put together. Only 20 percent of the region has been studied in geological terms, and the 200 deposits which I mentioned have been opened up on that very 20 percent.

Second. The oil deposits being worked are situated in central Tyumenskaya Oblast, the so-called middle Ob area. But what is there in the most remote and inaccessible northern rayons of the oblast? Also oil. And this is not simply a guess. Flowing oil has already been obtained on the vast territory of the Yamalo-Nenetskiy Autonomous Okrug. The Vostochno-Tarasovskoye, Muravlenkovskoye, Yen-Yakhinskoye and other deposits have been opened up here.

And finally the third main point--we are now getting oil from chalk deposits, at a depth of 2000-2500 meters. And according to all the available data the Jurassic, Triassic and Paleozoic deposits lying beneath these also contain oil. In this respect the geological structure of Tyumenskaya Oblast is unique--a real miracle of nature: It is like a layered pie with every layer an oil-bearing one.

But nature has securely hidden her treasures. Many oil deposits are to be found beyond the confines of the geological structures and an insignificant drilling error can result in an empty borehole, although there may be oil alongside the shaft. Here, for example, there are deposits of oil in clays, and these deposits are unrelated to the geological structure; consequently geophysical prospecting is powerless. Scientists and geologists have come to the conclusion that a completely new type of oil deposits, the only one of its kind on earth, occurs here. We are unable to utilize anyone's experience and are developing anew our theory of the prospecting and extraction of this oil.

We have every possibility of doing this. There are three special geological institutes operating in Tyumen, amounting to more than 2,000 scientific workers equipped with the latest research apparatus, including the latest-generation computers.

In the near future we will be drilling several deep boreholes--more than 6000-7000 meters, and one superdeep borehole in the extreme north up to 11,000 meters deep--in order to investigate the mineral resources.

The harsh natural conditions greatly impede the geologists' work. What do the oil- and gas-bearing regions of Tyumenskaya Oblast look like? There are continuous marshes up to 12 meters deep which do not freeze even in winter. There is the taiga where man has never set foot. There are endless expanses of tundra. And in addition to this there are severe (50-60 degrees) frosts in winter and plagues of mosquitoes and blood-sucking midges in the short rainy summer.

When oil was first found here and the oilfields began to be developed there were no means of communications apart from rivers throughout the entire huge territory. And the taiga rivers, apart from the Ob, are very shallow. They thaw late and freeze over early--the navigation season on them is very short.

At present a railroad linking Tyumen, Tobolsk, Surgut and Nizhnevartovsk has been constructed. New oil cities, including those such as Surgut and Nizhnevartovsk (the population of each exceeds 100,000) have been built in the wilderness. Hundreds of kilometers of paved roads, power transmission lines and main oil and gas pipelines have been laid on the oilfields. And all this has been done, I stress, in extremely difficult conditions, on the continuous taiga marshes. For example, 1 kilometer of railroad costs R1 million, and 1 kilometer of paved road not much less. The marsh, after all, has to be drained to the bottom and filled in with sand conveyed from afar.

The creation of the Siberian fields has required major material expenditure and the concentrated effort of the entire country. Some R50 billion have been invested in the formation of the Tyumen energy region since 1965. Expenditure for the purpose amounted to R25 billion in the 10th 5-Year Plan alone. And they will increase.

THERMAL METHOD OF OIL EXTRACTION PRAISED

LD151725 [Editorial Report] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian on 9 January 1981 carries on page 1 a 1,100-word editorial entitled "Make Way for Thermal Methods:" It urges more extensive use of "thermal methods" to boost production of oil from fields which have been in production for a long time and are not now very productive. The editorial explains that "the effect of heat on the seams makes heavy and viscous oil liquid and mobile, making it flow to the well bottom and increasing output." Yields reportedly rise by 50-100 percent and sometimes 200-300 percent. However, the editorial goes on to complain that thermal methods are being introduced too slowly and on too small a scale in Azerbaijan and calls for a greater effort to be made to coordinate the work of various departments in accelerating the introduction of progressive methods of boosting fuel production.

NEED FOR SYNTHETIC FUEL INDUSTRY COMPLEX CITED

LD160959 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 January 1981 carries on page 1 a 1,000-word Kemerovo dispatch by Doctor of Economic Sciences V. Popov, chief of the economic forecasting laboratory of the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Department's institute of economics and organization of industrial production, Candidate of Economic Sciences Yu. Fridman and Candidate of Technical Sciences R. Elbert, under the headline "Continuing the Quest." They discuss progress in the manufacture of liquid fuel from coal, suggesting that half the coal produced in the Kansk-Achinsk basin should be used for this purpose. The article goes on to discuss problems which would arise in the siting of the necessary plants and the provision of equipment, concluding that in creating the "new sector--the synthetic liquefied fuels industry--it is necessary to begin resolving a whole range of complex tasks today."

RADIO REPORTS DEVELOPMENTS FOR 15-17 JANUARY

LD160432/LD180208 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 15-17 January. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

15 January

In the preparations for spring fieldwork, seed preparations are underway. The beginning of the winter saw little snow, thus work on accumulating winter moisture began later than usual. Nonetheless, snow retention has already been carried out on millions of hectares in the RSFSR. This is especially important in Siberia, the Urals and the Volga Region, where there is little precipitation and most of it falls during the winter. Now it is necessary for the layer of snow to remain even and not be blown away by the steppe storms. Machine operators are hastening to complete the repair of machinery. Sometimes in February the seed drills are already out on the fields of the Ukraine and the Kuban. This is not a rare event and preparations should be made. In Central Asia fieldwork is already underway. It was reported today that plowing is in progress in all the rayons of Turkmenia. It is warm and sunny there. The republic also is already preparing for the planting of vegetables. At present more tractors than last year have been prepared along with their attachments. An example in this is being set by the initiators of the all-union competition, the machine operators of Moldavia, Altayskiy Kray and Krymskaya Oblasts. In the state and collective farms there are almost 4.5 million machine operators, but in spring there will not be enough, so hundreds of thousands of people are studying to learn the machine operator's trade. (1600 GMT)

Most farms in Primorskiy Kray have enough seeds for the summer. (2005 GMT)

Equipment is ready for early spring sowing in the Kuban. Pea, oats and grass seeds have been stockpiled. The main spring grain crop in the Kuban is corn. It will be sown on more than 500,000 hectares. (2105 GMT)

16 January

Some 80 percent of first and second class seed for spring sowing has been prepared in Tselinogbadsкая Oblast. Apart from traditional kinds of spring wheats, over 300,000 hectares will be sown this year with Tselina-21, a new kind of wheat which was developed by north Kazakhstan scientists. It is marked by a high degree of resistance to dry weather and yields three to four quintals of grain more than the commonly sown Saratovskaya-29. (0700 GMT)

The repair of soil-working and sowing machines has been completed in Belorussia. In addition, 89 percent of the republic's tractors are ready to take to the fields, as are over 50 percent of harvesting combines. (1000 GMT)

17 January

This year spring crops are to be sown on over 150 million hectares. (1100 GMT)